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County Borough of Stockport.



ANNUAL REPORT

**OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH.**



1929.



ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

HEALTH

OF THE

County Borough of Stockport

For the Year 1929.

By

NICOLAS GEBBIE,

M.D., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

STOCKPORT :

Swain & Co. Ltd., "Advertiser" Offices, High Street.

The following are the Committees for 1929-30 :—

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman—COUNCILLOR ERNEST BARLOW.

Vice-Chairman—COUNCILLOR JAMES H. STANSFIELD.

THE MAYOR

(Joshua Preston, Esq., J.P.).

ALDERMEN THOMAS ALLCOCK, and GEORGE H. BENNETT ; COUNCILLORS EDWARD BROWN, THOMAS BUCKLEY, ARTHUR CROSSLEY, JOHN W. FIDLER, THOMAS S. FISH, GEORGE GILL, WILLIAM HAMLETT, HARRY JEFFERIES, JOHN T. LORD, JOSEPH MORTON, JAMES PENNY, ARTHUR WALKER, and WALTER F. WILLIAMS.

Meetings—Second Wednesday in each Month.

HOSPITAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

Chairman—Councillor Ernest Barlow.

Vice-Chairman—Councillor James H. Stansfield.

Aldermen Thomas Allcock, and George H. Bennett ; Councillors John W. Fidler, George Gill, and James Penny.

Meetings—Second Wednesday in each Month.

SANATORIA SUB-COMMITTEE

AND

VENEREAL DISEASES SUB-COMMITTEE.

Chairman—Councillor Ernest Barlow.

Vice-Chairman—Councillor James H. Stansfield.

Alderman Thomas Allcock ; Councillors Thomas Buckley, Thomas S. Fish, and Arthur Walker.

Meetings—Second Wednesday in each Month.

EMERGENCY AND STAFFING SUB-COMMITTEE.

The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Councillors E. Brown, A. Crossley, W. Hamlett, J. T. Lord, J. Morton, and W. F. Williams,

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

Chairman—COUNCILLOR ERNEST BARLOW.

Vice-Chairman—ALDERMAN JOHN W. CRAIG.

THE MAYOR.

(Joshua Preston, Esq., J.P.).

ALDERMEN ROBERT A. MURRAY, M.D., O.B.E., J.P., HENRY PATTEN, J.P., and CHARLES SHARPLES, J.P. ; COUNCILLORS TOM BALDWIN, WILLIAM BERRY, WILLIAM A. DOWNHAM, WILLIAM HAMLETT, CATHERINE E. JOHNSON, HARRY MATKIN, ARTHUR WALKER and EDWIN WALSH ; MRS. N. W. BENNETT, MRS. AGNES N. BUCKLEY, MRS. EVELYN M. MURRAY, MRS. ELIZABETH POTTS, J.P., MRS. MARY A. SKUSE, J.P., and MISS FLORENCE ROWBOTHAM, J.P.

Meetings—Third Monday in each Month.

MATERNITY HOME SUB-COMMITTEE.

Chairman—Councillor Ernest Barlow.

Vice-Chairman—Alderman John W. Craig.

Councillor W. A. Downham ; Mrs. Agnes N. Buckley, Mrs. Evelyn M. Murray, Mrs. Elizabeth Potts, J.P., and Mrs. Mary A. Skuse, J.P.

Meetings—First Tuesday in each Month.

SUB-COMMITTEE RE DISTRIBUTION OF MILK.

The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Councillor Catherine E. Johnson.

HOUSING COMMITTEE.

Chairman—ALDERMAN JOHN W. CRAIG.

Vice-Chairman—COUNCILLOR JOHN T. LORD.

THE MAYOR

(Joshua Preston, Esq., J.P.).

ALDERMEN JOHN COUPE, ROBERT A. MURRAY, M.D., O.B.E., J.P., and CHARLES SHARPLES, J.P. ; COUNCILLORS WILLIAM BERRY, WILLIAM H. CLAYTON, TOM ECCLES, THOMAS E. HUNT, CATHERINE E. JOHNSON, WALTER H. KINSLEY, GEORGE MARPLES, JOSEPH MORTON, JAMES RIGBY, J.P., REV. ANTHONY RIPPINER, F.R.G.S., DAVID SCOTT-MORTON, and WILLIAM STANTON.

Meetings—Second Tuesday in each Month.

Medical Officer of Health ; Medical Superintendent, Corporation Hospitals ;
Tuberculosis and Venereal Diseases Officer ; Medical Officer to the
Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, and to the Education
Committee :—

Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Assistant Tuberculosis and Venereal Diseases Officer :—

Assistant Medical Officer of Health and Assistant Maternity and Child Welfare Medical Officer :—

a Certificate (new) R.S.I., Health Visitors.

To the Worshipful the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the County Borough of Stockport.

MR. MAYOR, COUNCILLOR MISS JOHNSON, AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my Report upon the Health, Sanitary Circumstances, and Vital Statistics of the County Borough of Stockport for the year ending 31st December, 1929. The Report, an Ordinary Report of the series, has been prepared in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health and, as in previous years, it contains detailed information of the work undertaken by the various Committees of the Corporation in securing and maintaining personal and environmental hygiene.

The Report is again divided into five parts, to facilitate reference, but I would remind you that the sub-division referred to is an arbitrary one, and is adopted solely for convenience. The Report should therefore be considered as a whole, and it should be borne in mind that the ultimate aim of the activities referred to in the various parts of the Report is to secure improvement in the state of the Public Health.

Part I. deals with Health and Housing.

,, II. ,, Infectious Diseases.

,, III. ,, Tuberculosis.

,, IV. ,, Venereal Diseases.

,, V. ,, Maternity and Child Welfare.

The estimated population given by the Registrar-General for the County Borough of Stockport at the middle of 1929 is 127,800, being an increase of 200 on the corresponding figure for 1928.

The Birth-rate, viz., 13.30 per 1,000 of the population remains low. In 1928, the Birth-rate was 14.32 per 1,000.

The Death-rate of 13.87 per 1,000 of the population shows an increase over the corresponding rate for 1928, viz., 12.79 per 1,000.

During the year only one case of Smallpox was notified, as compared with 11 in 1928.

The decline in the number of Scarlet Fever cases notified, to which attention was directed in my Reports for 1927 and 1928, continued during 1929 : 840 cases in 1926, 545 in 1927, 265 in 1928, and 210 in 1929.

The number of cases of Diphtheria notified to the Department rose from 189 in 1928, to 250 in 1929.

The statistical tables included in the Report have been prepared with meticulous care by the clerical staff of the Department and bear witness to the magnitude of the task undertaken by your Public Health Committee through its Health and Allied Services in securing and maintaining a high standard of health among our population.

During 1929 the work of the Department has been carried out in a most efficient manner by all the members of the Staff. The Doctors, Matrons, Nurses, Inspectors, Clerical, and Domestic Staffs have unreservedly given of their best in the interests of the community and especially of the younger members of our population.

I gladly take this opportunity of thanking all members of the Staff for their loyalty and devoted service.

The Chairmen, Vice-Chairmen, and Members of the various Committees, have continued to evince a very real personal interest in the work of the Department and to them I am indebted for the unvarying kindness and confidence which they have extended to me.

Dr. H. Richmond resigned his appointment as Senior Assistant Medical Officer of Health and left the service of the Corporation on 6th December, 1929, to take up a similar appointment in Wigan. Dr. E. Ratner, of Manchester, has been appointed his successor and will commence duty early in 1930. In my Report for last year I made reference to the death on 5th February, 1929, of Chief Inspector Butler. The vacancy thus created has been filled by the appointment of Mr. F. Allsop, of Hyde, who brings with him a sound knowledge of his profession and a wide experience of the problems as they affect the hygiene of an industrial community.

The Department, and indeed the whole town, mourns the loss sustained by the death of Councillor Mrs. Henderson, the Chairman of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, which took place on 2nd September, 1929. Councillor Mrs. Henderson was whole-heartedly devoted to the work of child welfare in Stockport, and her exceptional ability and her great natural gifts of sympathy and understanding combined to endear her to all with whom she came in contact.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

NICOLAS GEBBIE, M.D., D.P.H.,

Public Health Department,

Medical Officer of Health.

Town Hall,

Stockport.

April, 1930.

County Borough of Stockport.

1929.

Statistical Memoranda.

	Stockport.	England and Wales.	107 County Boroughs & Great Towns.	156 Smaller Towns.
Population (Census 1921).....	123,315	—	—	—
Estimated Population, Mid-year, 1929.....	127,800	—	—	—
Area in Acres.....	7,059	—	—	—
Birth Rate per 1,000.....	13.30	16.3	16.6	16.0
Do. do. average for five years, 1924-1928.....	15.58	—	—	—
General Death Rate per 1,000	13.87	13.4	13.7	12.3
Do. do. average for five years, 1924-1928.....	13.18	—	—	—
Infantile Death Rate per 1,000 Births	91.18	74	79	69
Do. do. average for five years, 1924-1928.....	84.17	—	—	—
Death Rate from Seven Principal Zymotic Diseases.....	0.23	—	—	—
Death Rate from Phthisis (Pul- monary Consumption)	0.82	—	—	—
Death Rate from all other Tuber- cular Diseases.....	0.13	—	—	—

All the rates are calculated on a population estimated to the middle of 1929.

Rateable Value (April, 1929).....	£823,991
Sum represented by a penny rate for General Rate purposes (estimated 1929).....	£3,112
Number of inhabited houses (1921).....	29,765
Number of families or separate occupiers (1921) ..	30,225

Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

	<i>Total.</i>		<i>M.</i>		<i>F.</i>	
Births : Legitimate.....	1622	..	801	..	821	} Birth-rate, 13.30
Illegitimate....	78	..	37	..	41	

Deaths..... 1772 .. 871 .. 901 Death-rate 13.87

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, child-birth :—

 From sepsis..... 3

 From other causes..... 8

Deaths of Infants under one year of age per 1,000 births :—

 Legitimate 87.5. Illegitimate 166.6. Total 91.2.

Deaths from Measles (all ages).....	1
,, Whooping Cough (all ages).....	19
,, Diarrhoea (under two years of age).....	2

PART I.

Health and Housing.

Natural and Social Conditions of the District.

The rivers Goyt and Tame unite at Tiviot Dale to form the river Mersey and the Borough is situated on both the Lancashire and Cheshire sides of this river. In the immediate vicinity of the Mersey stands the old part of Stockport around which there has grown a large industrial city. The chief occupations of the inhabitants are Cotton Spinning, Weaving and Doubling, Hat Manufacture, Engineering, Brewing, Jam Making, Confectionery and allied trades.

For the most part the people are housed in dwellings of the cottage type, "two up and two down," placed in long rows. Dwellings of this type are universal in the industrial areas of the North of England and are the result of the rapid rise of Industrialism which occurred some sixty years ago. The lack of adequate town-planning schemes in those early days of the town's growth and development is responsible for many of the defects which are apparent to-day. In the older parts of the town factories and dwellinghouses are in close proximity to each other and over the central area of the town there hangs a cloud of smoke from industrial and domestic chimneys.

Stockport, however, has many amenities. It is well provided with residential areas and with open spaces and playing fields. Its facilities for rail and road transport are good. Sites are available for new works and for extension of existing factories, and the rates levied in the town are comparatively low.

The industries of the area are so many and varied that one is unable to single out any particular industrial process as having a marked effect on the health of the inhabitants as a whole.

The population of Stockport at the 1921 Census was 123,315, a figure which was subsequently amended to 125,500.

The population at the middle of 1929, as estimated by the Registrar-General, is 127,800.

The Census figures on the last five occasions were as follows :—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Population.</i>
1881.....	59,553
1891.....	70,263
1901.....	78,897
1911.....	108,693
1921.....	123,315

The area of the Borough is 7,059 acres, and the density of population, as calculated on the estimate of the total population, is 18.10 persons per acre, varying from 97.08 in St. Thomas's Ward to 7.06 in Heaton Norris South Ward,

The number of new houses completed during the year 1929 was 406.

The number of houses in course of building at the end of the year was 81.

<i>Year.</i>	<i>No. of new houses completed.</i>
1920.....	24
1921.....	131
1922.....	71
1923.....	176
1924.....	241
1925.....	405
1926.....	335
1927.....	330
1928.....	332
1929.....	406

The following table shows the distribution and density of the population in the various districts :—

<i>Ward.</i>	<i>Acre- age.</i>	<i>Estim- ated total Popu- lation.</i>	<i>Per- sons per Acre.</i>	<i>Ward.</i>	<i>Acre- age.</i>	<i>Estim- ated total Popu- lation</i>	<i>Per- sons per Acre.</i>
Lancashire Hill.	145	5705	39.34	St. Thomas's....	53	5145	97.08
Heaton Lane...	234	6215	26.56	Hempshaw L'e	146	5560	38.08
Old Road.....	114	5870	51.49	Cale Green....	145	6325	43.62
Portwood.....	324	8040	24.81	Heaviley.....	1115	12190	10.93
St. Mary's.....	91	2920	32.09	Reddish North.	786	9805	12.47
Vernon.....	427	6580	15.41	Reddish South.	755	6215	8.23
Spring Bank...	81	4225	52.16	Heaton Nor. N.	711	5220	7.34
Hollywood.....	346	9270	26.79	Heaton Nor. S.	863	6090	7.06
Edgeley.....	331	11585	35.0				
Haw Heath....	392	10840	27.65	Whole Borough	7059	127800	18.10

Births.

The corrected number of births registered in the Borough during the year was 1,700, of which 838 were males and 862 females.

The birth-rate per thousand of the population was equal to 13.30, which is a slight decrease on the rate of last year.

The highest birth-rate occurred in St. Thomas's Ward, namely, 20.41, while the lowest recorded was in Heaton Norris North Ward, namely, 8.24.

Illegitimacy.

During the year there were 78 illegitimate births registered belonging to the Borough, as compared with 71 in 1928. This gives an illegitimate birth-rate of 45.88 per thousand of the total births registered, as compared with 38.86 in 1928.

The infantile mortality rate amongst illegitimate children is 166.6 per thousand illegitimate births.

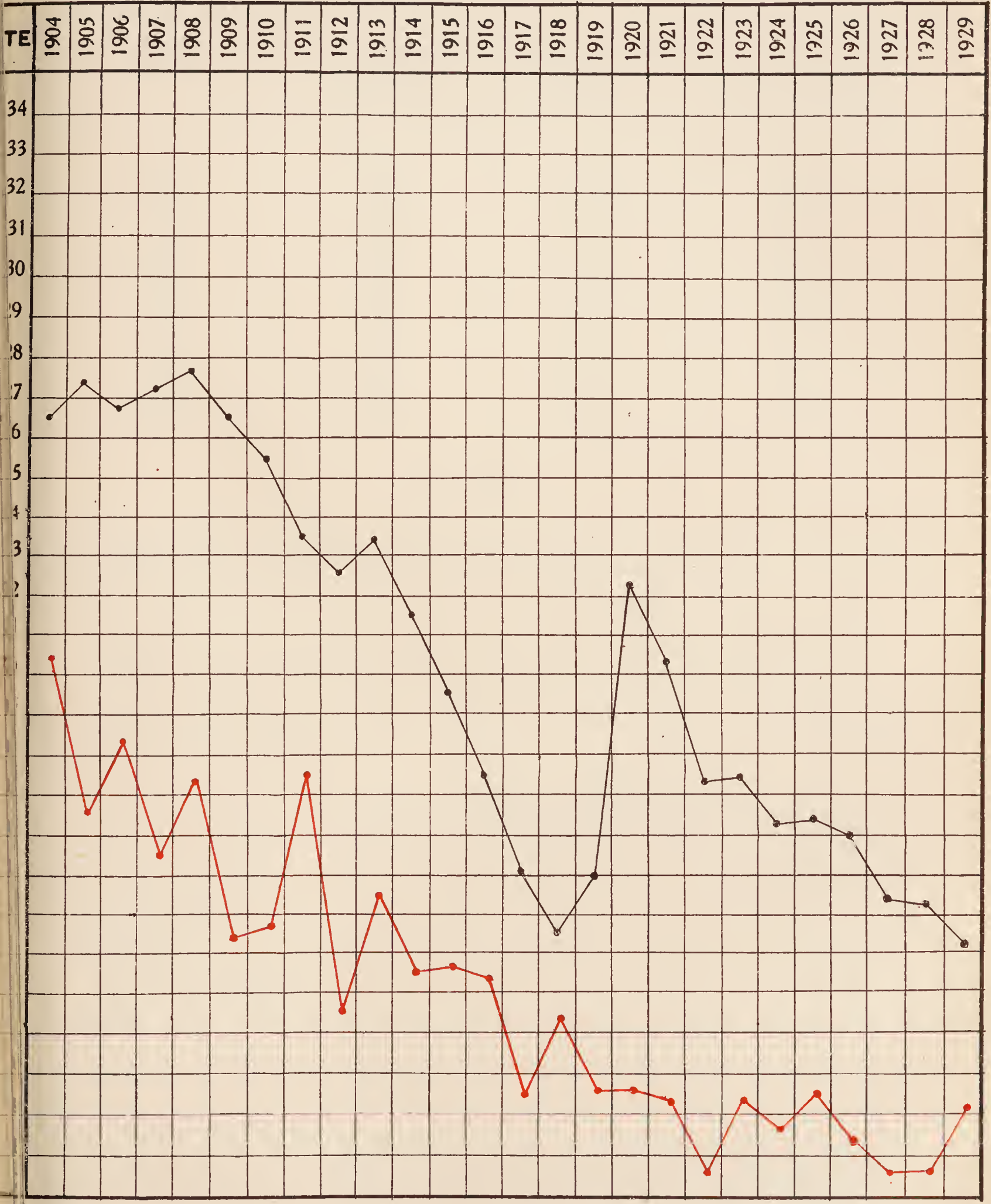
The following table shows the comparison between the death-rates of illegitimate children and others registered in the Borough during the past ten years :—

Year	Esti- mated popula- tion.	Births.		Illegitimate Births.		Total deaths under 1 year of age	Infan- tile mor- tality per 1000 births.	Deaths of illegiti- mates under 1 year of age.	Illegiti- mate infantile mortality per 1000 illegiti- mate births.
		Legit- imate	Illegit- imate	to 1000 living	to 1000 births				
1920	130635	2763	138	1.05	47.57	282	97.2	26	188.4
1921	125500	2435	129	1.03	50.31	233	90.8	18	139.5
1922	125800	2087	104	0.83	47.47	168	76.7	10	96.2
1923	125700	2121	95	0.76	42.87	203	91.6	25	263.2
1924	126000	1969	94	0.75	45.56	180	87.3	11	117.0
1925	125900	1975	104	0.83	50.02	202	97.2	20	192.3
1926	125400	1926	88	0.70	43.69	165	81.9	14	159.1
1927	125200	1750	85	0.68	46.32	142	77.4	7	82.4
1928	127600	1756	71	0.56	38.86	141	77.2	6	84.5
1929	127800	1622	78	0.61	45.88	155	91.2	13	166.6

Marriages.

The number of marriages solemnised during the year 1929 was 1,088, or 1 more than in 1928. The marriage-rate per thousand persons living being 17.03. This figure is higher than the rate for the country generally, which was 15.8.

Chart showing the Annual Birth-rate per thousand of the population
and the Infant Mortality Rate per cent. of Registered Births,
for the past 26 years (1904 - 1929)



Birth-rate indicated by Black lines.
Infant Mortality Rate Indicated by Red lines.

Of the 1,088 marriages, 564 were solemnised according to the rites of the Established Church, 109 under Roman Catholic rites, 1 at the Jewish Synagogue, 211 according to the rites of other religious denominations, and 203 at the Registrar's Office.

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Number of Marriages.</i>	<i>Rate per 1000 Living.</i>	<i>Rate for England and Wales.</i>
1920	1464	22.4	20.2
1921	1165	18.6	16.9
1922	1079	17.2	15.8
1923	1008	16.0	18.0
1924	1094	17.4	15.3
1925	1050	16.7	15.2
1926	936	14.9	14.3
1927	1027	16.4	15.7
1928	1087	17.0	15.3
1929	1088	17.0	15.8

Deaths.

The corrected number of deaths recorded in the Borough during the year 1929 was 1,772; namely :—871 males and 901 females.

The death-rate per thousand of the estimated population was 13.87.

COMPARATIVE MORTALITY DURING LAST DECENNIUM.

Herein are set out some of the principal causes of death in the Borough for the past ten years :—

<i>Cause of Death.</i>	<i>Number of Deaths.</i>									
	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929
<i>Seven Chief Zymotics.....</i>	115	66	67	44	64	62	50	32	39	30
Smallpox.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Scarlet Fever.....	7	5	4	1	5	6	7	5	2	1
Diphtheria.....	30	20	18	14	5	3	7	6	5	6
“ Fevers ”—Typhoid and Continued.....	2	3	1	..	2	..	..	..	2	..
Measles.....	41	1	19	9	42	4	25	7	15	1
Whooping Cough.....	25	9	22	12	6	41	5	6	13	19
Diarrhoea.....	10	28	3	8	4	8	6	7	2	3
Influenza.....	23	20	53	20	33	19	25	39	19	83
Lung Diseases (including Phthisis).....	483	413	527	481	559	501	391	373	444	538
Heart Disease.....	296	324	364	367	374	400	420	373	359	373
Injury.....	45	35	30	31	43	58	33	44	38	52

TABLE SHOWING SUMMARY OF VITAL AND MORTAL
STATISTICS FOR THE BOROUGH.

	<i>No of Deaths</i>
Lung Diseases (excluding Phthisis).....	433
Phthisis.....	105
Other Tubercular Diseases.....	16
Diseases of Circulatory System (Heart, &c.).....	373
„ Nervous System.....	55
„ Digestive System.....	64
„ Kidneys.....	81
Debility and Wasting, etc., in Infants.....	17
Old Age.....	70
Cancer.....	205
Accidents.....	52
Suicides.....	14
All other Diseases.....	287

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Birth-rate</i>	<i>Nett Death-rate.</i>	<i>Zymotic Death-rate.</i>	<i>Infant Mortality.</i>
1910	25.60	17.03	1.63	137
1911	23.33	17.38	2.73	172
1912	22.75	16.02	1.42	109
1913	23.17	16.64	1.85	146
1914	21.64	15.10	1.18	124
1915	19.32	16.69	1.59	127
1916	17.66	15.42	1.49	121
1917	15.17	13.18	0.54	96
1918	13.84	18.29	0.69	112
1919	15.05	13.33	0.32	98
1920	22.20	12.87	0.88	97
1921	20.43	12.16	0.53	91
1922	17.42	13.37	0.53	77
1923	17.63	12.66	0.35	92
1924	16.37	13.86	0.51	87
1925	16.51	13.94	0.49	97
1926	16.06	12.78	0.40	82
1927	14.66	12.54	0.26	77
1928	14.32	12.79	0.31	77
1929	13.30	13.87	0.23	92

Uncertified Deaths and Inquests.

During the year there were 175 deaths registered in the Borough in which the cause of death was not certified by any medical practitioner. In 160 of these cases an inquest was held, and the verdicts found by the Coroner's juries may be summarised as follows :—

1.—NATURAL CAUSES.

Circulatory System.....	24	Cancer.....	2
Cerebral Haemorrhage.....	2	Peritonitis.....	1
Nephritis.....	18	Alcoholism.....	4
Erysipelas.....	1	Prematurity.....	1
Bronchitis.....	2	Other Natural Causes.....	4
Pneumonia.....	4		

2.—BY ACCIDENT OR NEGLIGENCE.

In Vehicular Traffic.....	27	Fractures.....	13
By Drowning.....	2	Gas Poisoning.....	6
Burns and Scalds.....	10	On Railway.....	2
Falls.....	9	Other Injuries.....	10

3.—SUICIDE.

By Hanging and Strangulation.....	3	By Gas Poisoning.....	5
„ Cut or Stab.....	2	„ Poison.....	3
„ Drowning.....	2	„ Precipitation from Elevated Places.....	1
„ Shooting.....	1		

4.—HOMICIDE.

Cut Throat.....	1
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Vital Statistics of whole Borough during 1929, and previous years.—Name of District, STOCKPORT.

YEAR.	1	2	BIRTHS.			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.		TRANSFERABLE DEATHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
			Un-corrected Number.	Nett.		Number.	Rate.	of Non-residents registered in the District.	of Residents not registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.	
				Number.	Rate.					Number.	Rate per 1000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.
			3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1920		130,635	2888	2901	22.20	1680	12.86	101	102	282	97	1681	12.87
1921		125,500	2558	2564	20.43	1548	12.33	91	69	233	91	1526	12.16
1922		125,800	2195	2191	17.42	1687	13.41	85	80	168	77	1682	13.37
1923		125,700	2206	2216	17.63	1639	13.04	139	91	203	92	1591	12.66
1924		126,000	2056	2063	16.37	1791	14.21	134	89	180	87	1746	13.86
1925		125,900	2074	2079	16.51	1805	14.43	152	91	202	97	1744	13.94
1926		125,400	2019	2014	16.06	1660	13.24	161	103	165	82	1602	12.78
1927		125,200	1863	1835	14.66	1650	13.18	175	95	142	77	1570	12.54
1928		127,600	1854	1827	14.32	1733	13.58	199	98	141	77	1632	12.79
1929		127,800	1758	1700	13.30	1889	14.78	226	109	155	91	1772	13.87

Total population at all ages, 125,500 at Census of 1921. Area of District in acres (land and water) : 7,059.

Private families or separate occupiers : 30,225 at Census of 1921.

SUMMARY OF THE VITAL AND MORTAL STATISTICS OF THE BOROUGH AND EACH OF ITS WARDS FOR THE YEAR 1929.

WARD	Acreage.	Estima- ted Popula- tion.	Persons per acre.	No. of Births registered.	Birth rate.	Nett deaths *	Nett Death rate.	No. of de'ths under 1 year of age *	Infant mor- tality rate per 1000 births.	No. of de'ths from 7 prin- cipal Zy- motic dise- ases† *	Zymotic Death rate per 1000.	Zymotic death rate per 1000 (exclud- ing Diarrhoea)	No. of de'ths from Diarrhoea *	Death rate from Diarrhoea per 1000.	No. of de'ths from Pthi- sis. *	Death rate from Pthi- sis per 1000.	No. of de'ths from other Tubercu- lar diseases *	Death rate from other Tubercu- lar diseases per 1000.	No. of de'ths from Other Lung Dis- eases. *	Death rate from Other Lung Diseases per 1000.
LANCASHIRE HILL	145	5,705	39.34	M. 29 F. 28 57	10.0	85	14.90	8	140	2	0.35	0.35	...	...	5	0.88	1	0.18	23	4.03
HEATON LANE ...	234	6,215	26.56	M. 50 F. 40 90	14.48	101	16.25	11	122	1	0.16	0.16	...	...	8	1.29	...	...	34	5.47
OLD ROAD ...	114	5,870	51.49	M. 28 F. 35 63	10.73	76	12.95	7	111	1	0.17	0.17	...	...	8	1.36	2	0.34	11	1.87
PORTWOOD ...	324	8,040	24.81	M. 64 F. 76 140	17.41	121	15.05	23	164	5	0.62	0.62	...	...	7	0.87	1	0.12	31	3.86
ST. MARY'S ...	91	2,920	32.09	M. 20 F. 26 46	15.75	54	18.49	11	239	1	0.34	0.34	...	...	4	1.37	2	0.68	19	6.51
VERNON ...	427	6,580	15.41	M. 45 F. 50 95	14.44	100	15.20	9	95	1	0.15	0.15	...	...	7	1.06	...	...	31	4.71
SPRING BANK ...	81	4,225	52.16	M. 29 F. 46 75	17.75	71	16.80	5	67	1	0.24	0.24	...	...	2	0.47	1	0.24	16	3.79
HOLLYWOOD...	346	9,270	26.79	M. 66 F. 62 128	13.81	120	12.94	12	94	4	0.43	0.43	...	...	7	0.76	4	0.43	24	2.59
EDGELEY ...	331	11,585	35.0	M. 75 F. 72 147	12.69	138	11.91	6	41	1	0.09	0.09	...	...	5	0.43	...	...	28	2.41
SHAW HEATH ...	392	10,840	27.65	M. 59 F. 52 111	10.24	129	11.90	4	36	...	...	...	...	...	8	0.74	...	...	33	3.04
ST. THOMAS'S ...	53	5,145	97.08	M. 49 F. 56 105	20.41	89	17.30	10	95	1	0.19	...	1	0.19	8	1.55	1	0.19	29	5.64
HEMPSHAW LANE ...	146	5,560	38.08	M. 43 F. 44 87	15.65	78	14.03	9	103	4	0.72	0.72	...	...	6	1.08	1	0.18	23	4.14
CALE GREEN ...	145	6,325	43.62	M. 36 F. 29 65	10.28	83	13.12	5	77	2	0.32	0.32	...	...	6	0.95	...	...	17	2.69
HEAVILEY ...	1115	12,190	10.93	M. 87 F. 90 177	14.52	141	11.57	13	73	3	0.25	0.16	1	0.09	4	0.33	...	...	29	2.38
REDDISH NORTH...	786	9,805	12.47	M. 65 F. 66 131	13.36	111	11.32	13	99	1	0.10	...	1	0.10	14	1.43	...	...	22	2.24
REDDISH SOUTH...	755	6,215	8.23	M. 34 F. 34 68	10.94	90	14.48	2	29	2	0.32	0.32	...	...	4	0.64	2	0.32	29	4.67
HEATON NORRIS N.	711	5,220	7.34	M. 24 F. 19 43	8.24	71	13.60	2	47	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	3.26
HEATON NORRIS S.	863	6,090	7.06	M. 35 F. 37 72	11.82	114	18.72	5	69	...	...	...	...	...	2	0.33	1	0.16	17	2.79
STOCKPORT BOROUGH	7059	127800	18.10	M. 838 F. 862 1700	13.30	M 871 F 901 1772	13.87	M 80 F 75 155	91.18	M 11 F 19 30	0.23	0.21	M 2 F 1 3	0.02	M 69 F 36 105	0.82	M 9 F 7 16	0.13	M 222 F 211 433	3.39

* Deaths of Stockport residents in the Union Hospital, Union Workhouse, Infirmary, and Isolation Hospital are here referred to the Wards in which they lived. Deaths within the Borough of Non-residents from out-townships are excluded.

† The "Seven Principal Zymotic Diseases" are Smallpox, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and Membranous Croup, Whooping Cough, Fever (typhus, typhoid and continued), and Diarrhoea. ‡ Registrar General's estimate.

Year	Age	Sex	Population	Births	Deaths	Mortality Rate
1900	15-20	Male	112,000	1,100	1,100	1.00
1900	15-20	Female	112,000	1,100	1,100	1.00
1900	21-25	Male	112,000	1,100	1,100	1.00
1900	21-25	Female	112,000	1,100	1,100	1.00
1900	26-30	Male	112,000	1,100	1,100	1.00
1900	26-30	Female	112,000	1,100	1,100	1.00
1900	31-35	Male	112,000	1,100	1,100	1.00
1900	31-35	Female	112,000	1,100	1,100	1.00
1900	36-40	Male	112,000	1,100	1,100	1.00
1900	36-40	Female	112,000	1,100	1,100	1.00
1900	41-45	Male	112,000	1,100	1,100	1.00
1900	41-45	Female	112,000	1,100	1,100	1.00
1900	46-50	Male	112,000	1,100	1,100	1.00
1900	46-50	Female	112,000	1,100	1,100	1.00
1900	51-55	Male	112,000	1,100	1,100	1.00
1900	51-55	Female	112,000	1,100	1,100	1.00
1900	56-60	Male	112,000	1,100	1,100	1.00
1900	56-60	Female	112,000	1,100	1,100	1.00
1900	61-65	Male	112,000	1,100	1,100	1.00
1900	61-65	Female	112,000	1,100	1,100	1.00
1900	66-70	Male	112,000	1,100	1,100	1.00
1900	66-70	Female	112,000	1,100	1,100	1.00
1900	71-75	Male	112,000	1,100	1,100	1.00
1900	71-75	Female	112,000	1,100	1,100	1.00
1900	76-80	Male	112,000	1,100	1,100	1.00
1900	76-80	Female	112,000	1,100	1,100	1.00
1900	81-85	Male	112,000	1,100	1,100	1.00
1900	81-85	Female	112,000	1,100	1,100	1.00
1900	86-90	Male	112,000	1,100	1,100	1.00
1900	86-90	Female	112,000	1,100	1,100	1.00
1900	91-95	Male	112,000	1,100	1,100	1.00
1900	91-95	Female	112,000	1,100	1,100	1.00
1900	96-100	Male	112,000	1,100	1,100	1.00
1900	96-100	Female	112,000	1,100	1,100	1.00

Mortality Statistics.

The Corrected Nett Death-Rate for the Borough as a whole was 13.87 per 1,000 of the estimated population. The principal causes of death during 1929 were diseases of the Circulatory System (Heart, etc.), diseases of the Lungs, and Cancer. Climatic conditions undoubtedly play an important part in causing the high incidence rate of chest diseases which obtains locally. Long spells of cold and damp weather, and the pollution of the atmosphere by smoke and by other products of the incomplete combustion of raw coal, reduce our powers of resistance to infection and render us susceptible to attacks of such diseases as Bronchitis, Broncho-pneumonia, Pneumonia, and Rheumatism.

Diseases of the Respiratory System, e.g., Bronchitis and Broncho-pneumonia are of frequent occurrence as complications of such diseases as Measles and Whooping Cough and are of grave import. In the industrial centres of the North of England, Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Heart Disease may well be ranked with Phthisis as the "Captains of the men of Death."

Cancer continues to exact a heavy toll in human suffering and misery and, in Stockport in 1929, 205 deaths were ascribed to it. Of these 205 fatal cases, 90 were males and 115 females. The age incidence of the cases was as follows :—

Years.	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 and over
Number	—	2	10	51	56	86

The situation of the lesion in these cases may be summarised thus :—

Cancer of Mouth and Digestive System.....	127	Cases.
„ Female Genital Organs.....	18	„
„ Breast.....	21	„
„ Skin.....	5	„
„ Other Organs.....	34	„
		—————
Total.....	205	„
		—————

The death-rate from Cancer in 1929 was 1.60 per thousand of the population as compared with 1.73 for the year 1928.

Cancer essentially affects individuals beyond middle-life and in one or other of its many forms may attack almost any organ of the body.

In spite of careful scientific investigation and painstaking research conducted in many lands the cause of Cancer still remains obscure. If detected early it is curable by surgical measures, but in what is often at first a painless disease it is difficult for the patient to realise the necessity for surgical aid.

From time to time circulars are issued by the Ministry of Health in which the position with regard to research work into the cause, etc., of Cancer is reviewed. There is an urgent need for further research into the cause, or causes of Cancer, into its effects upon human life, and into the all important question of its prevention or cure. Funds are needed for this purpose and the work of collecting the necessary money throughout this area has been undertaken by the Lancashire, Cheshire and North Wales Council of the British Empire Cancer Campaign.

A Local Committee has been formed and subscriptions or donations will be thankfully received by His Worship the Mayor, or by the Borough Treasurer, who is Honorary Treasurer to the Fund.

Mortality in Different Wards.

The Corrected Nett Death-rate for the Borough as a whole was 13.87 per 1,000 of the estimated population. The highest Ward Death-rate occurred in Heaton Norris South Ward, namely, 18.72, whilst the lowest was recorded in Reddish North Ward with 11.32.

The Zymotic Death-rate for the whole Borough was 0.23. This Rate is calculated on the number of deaths from the following diseases :—Small-pox, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and Membranous Croup, Whooping Cough, Typhoid Fever, and Diarrhoea, and the total number of deaths from these diseases was 30.

Phthisis Death-rate. The Death-rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, or consumption of the lungs, for the whole of the Borough, was 0.82 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 0.70 for 1928, and the total number of deaths recorded was 105, as compared with 89 for 1928, 77 for 1927, 70 for 1926, 104 for 1925, 110 for 1924, and 119 for 1923.

The highest Death-rate occurred in St. Thomas's Ward, namely, 1.55 per 1,000 of the population.

Registrar General's Return of Causes of Death at Different Periods of Life in the County Borough of Stockport.

CAUSES OF DEATH.		Sex.	All Ages.	0—	1—	2—	5—	15—	25—	45—	65—	75—
ALL CAUSES.....		M. F	870 900	78 76	23 19	17 10	17 19	26 28	112 89	266 230	195 217	136 212
1. Enteric Fever.....		M. F	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
2. Small-pox.....		M. F	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
3. Measles.....		M. F	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
4. Scarlet Fever.....		M. F	1 1	1 ..	1..	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
5. Whooping Cough.....		M. F	5 14	.. 5	1 2	1 2	.. 2	....	....	....	....	....
6. Diphtheria.....		M. F	3 3	1 1	1 ..	1 ..	2 1	....	....	....	....	....
7. Influenza.....		M. F	59 66	3 3	5 ..	1 3	1 2	1 2	13 9	23 21	7 18	5 8
8. Encephalitis Lethargica.....		M. F	2 ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	1 ..	1..	....	....	....	....
9. Meningococcal Meningitis.....		M. F	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
10. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System.....		M. F	69 37	1 ..	1 ..	1 2	1 1	11 6	30 21	21 9	2 ..	1 ..
11. Other Tuberculous Diseases.....		M. F	7 8	.. ..	1 ..	2 1	1 ..	3 ..	2 3	1 ..	.. 1	....
12. Cancer, Malignant Disease.....		M. F	89 114	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	3 8	47 59	1 ..	12 14
13. Rheumatic Fever.....		M. F	2 3	1 ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. 1	.. 1	.. ..	1 1	....	....
14. Diabetes.....		M. F	8 14	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	1 ..	.. ..	3 6	4 6	.. 1

Table showing Deaths from All Causes belonging to the County Borough of Stockport during the year 1929, classified according to Diseases and Ages. (This Table includes deaths of "Residents" occurring in other districts, and excludes deaths of "Non-Residents," in accordance with the Rules of the Registrar-General.)

DISEASES CLASSIFIED.	SEX.		Totals.	AGES.														
	M.	F.		-1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 & over	
I.	ZYMOTIC DISEASES :—																	
	..	.. 1	.. 1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1	..	83	.. 4	.. 2	1	..	2	1	2	..	2	8	10	18	27	..	
	42	41	19	6	5	2	..	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	5	14	6	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	3	3	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	2	..	..	.. 1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	3	1	4	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
II.	Syphilis.....																	
	3	1	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
III.	SEPTIC DISEASES :—																	
	5	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	2	1	3	..
	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
	1	2	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
	
IV.	Rheumatic Fever.....																	
	2	7	9	1	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	..	1	2	2	..	..
V.	TUBERCULAR DISEASES :—																	
	4	2	6	..	1	..	1	..	..	2	..	1	..	..	..	3	..
	69	36	105	..	1	..	1	..	3	11	4	27	23	16	15	1	..	
	2	2	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	2	3	5	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	..	..	1

DISEASES CLASSIFIED.	SEX.		Totals.	AGES.													
	M.	F.		-1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 & over
X.	DISEASES OF NERVOUS SYSTEM—Ctd.																
	3	2	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	4	..	..	..	..
	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
	1	2	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	1	1
	3	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
	3	1	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
	2	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
XI.																	
XII.	DISEASES OF CIRCULATORY SYSTEM :—																
	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
	37	48	85	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	3	6	9	12	19	30	31
	14	9	23	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	9	11	11
	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
	5	1	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
	2	7	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
	1	3	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	1	1
	91	91	182	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	9	30	139	139
	23	37	60	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	8	12	38	38
XIII.	DISEASES OF RESPIRATORY SYSTEM :—																
	25	39	64	14	4	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	2	5	37	37
	75	77	152	..	1	..	..	..	2	1	1	1	5	9	28	107	107
	54	22	76	21	11	5	1	2	2	1	..	..	13	25	10	16	16
	38	42	80	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	1	..	2	5	5	24	24
	16	22	38	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	3	9	8	5	10	10
	6	5	11	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	2	2	3	3
	4	1	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	1	1
	2	1	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	1
	2	2	4	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	2	2

DISEASES CLASSIFIED.	SEX.		Totals.	AGES.													
	M.	F.		-1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 & over
XIV.	DISEASES OF DIGESTIVE SYSTEM :—																
	Disease of Mouth and Annexa.....																
	Ulcer of Stomach.....																
	Other diseases of Stomach.....																
	Enteritis.....																
	Appendicitis.....																
	Obstruction of Intestine.....																
	Other diseases of Intestine.....																
	Cirrhosis of Liver.....																
	Other diseases of Liver.....																
	Peritonitis.....																
	Other Digestive Diseases.....																
XV.	Myxoedema.....																
	Exophthalmic Goitre.....																
	Other diseases of Lymphatic System																
XVI.	DISEASES OF URINARY SYSTEM :—																
	Nephritis, Acute.....																
	Brights Disease.....																
XVII.	Pyonephrosis																
	Pyelonephritis.....																
	Diseases of Bladder and Prostate..																
XVIII.	Other diseases of Urinary System..																
	Diseases of Ovaries.....																
	Diseases of Uterus & Appendages..																
CHILD-BIRTH :—																	
	DISEASES ASSOCIATED WITH																
	Puerperal Fever																
	Abortion, Miscarriage.....																
	Puerperal Convulsions.....																
	Placenta Prævia.....																
	Puerperal Thrombosis																
	Other diseases of Pregnancy and Child-birth.....																

DISEASES CLASSIFIED.	SEX.		Totals.	AGES.													
	M.	F.		1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 & over	
				-1													
XIX.	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
XX.	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	
	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
XXI.	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
	6	6	12	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	..	..	2	1	3	1
	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
	4	1	5	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	1	1	1	1
	2	6	8	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	3	3	6	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..
	
	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
	
	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	3	3	6	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	..
	3	6	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
XXII.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
XXIII.	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
	2	3	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	3	..
	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
	3	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..
	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..
	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	..	..
	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	..	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	
	
XXIV.	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Totals.....		871	899	1770	155	42	13	9	4	22	31	22	78	125	210	286	760

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

Hospitals provided or subsidized by the Local Authority.

A. (1)—Fever Hospital.—Your Council maintains the Borough Isolation Hospital at Cherry Tree Lane, Stockport, at which there is accommodation for 78 patients suffering from Acute Infectious Disease. During the year under review the accommodation at your Isolation Hospital was ample to meet the requirements.

(2)—Smallpox Hospital.—Your Council retains four beds at the Hyde Borough Smallpox Hospital. In the event of a serious epidemic of Smallpox in Stockport, it would be necessary to utilise Whitehill Hospital for the purpose of isolating cases of this disease. At Whitehill Hospital there is normally accommodation for twenty-six patients.

B. (1) Tuberculosis.—At Whitehill Hospital your Council provides, with the consent of the Ministry of Health, accommodation for 26 cases of Tuberculosis (of both sexes). This institution is utilised mainly for the treatment of advanced cases of pulmonary tuberculosis, but during the year observation cases, and cases on the waiting-list for other Sanatoria have been admitted.

Institutional provision for Tuberculosis cases is secured for Stockport patients in Hospitals and Sanatoria elsewhere as follows :—

- (a) Cheshire Joint Sanatorium, Burntwood—16 beds.
- (b) Meathop Sanatorium, Grange-over-Sands—10 beds.
- (c) Wensleydale Sanatorium, Aysgarth, Yorkshire—7 beds.
- (d) Barrowmore Hall Training Colony, Chester. } For Ex-Servicemen
- (e) Preston Hall Training Colony, Kent. } as required.
- (f) Shropshire Orthopaedic Hospital, Oswestry—3 beds.
- (g) Special School, West Kirby (George Fearn Trust)—1 bed.
- (h) Ormerod Home, St. Annes-on-Sea (pre-tubercular children)—25 beds.

The last mentioned is under the administration of the George Fearn Trust to which the Corporation subscribe the sum of £150 per annum.

A certain number of cases of Tuberculosis are treated by the Board of Guardians at their Institution at Stepping Hill Hospital.

Cases of tuberculosis of the skin are treated at the Manchester and Salford Hospital for Skin Diseases under arrangements made by the Corporation with the Hospital Board.

(2) Maternity.—Your Council maintains the Municipal Maternity Hospital at Mile End Hall, Stockport, with accommodation for 16 mothers and 16 babies.

Accommodation is provided by the Stockport Board of Guardians for 14 maternity cases in a wing of the Board's Stepping Hill Hospital in Stockport.

(3) Children.—There is no Hospital within the area of the County Borough of Stockport used exclusively for children.

(4) Other.

- (a) The Stockport Infirmary provides accommodation for 130 Medical and Surgical cases and has a well equipped and adequately staffed Out-Patient Department, with Specialist Services in the various branches of medical and surgical work.
- (b) The Poor Law Infirmary, Stepping Hill, Stockport, is maintained by the Stockport Board of Guardians and provides 450 beds for the reception and treatment of cases sent by the Union's Medical Officers.
- (c) Six privately owned Maternity Homes are registered with the Local Authority—total accommodation 33 beds.

Institutional Provision for Unmarried Mothers, &c.

HOUSE OF REFUGE.—This Home, which is situated in Chatham Street, Stockport, deals with unmarried mothers and others who are brought to the notice of the officers of the Institution, either by the Poor Law Authorities or by intimation from private sources.

STOCKPORT POLICE AID ASSOCIATION.—The object of this Association is to provide necessitous children with clothing. The Maternity and Child Welfare Committee have placed at the Association's disposal the Great Portwood Street Maternity and Child Welfare Centre which is used occasionally for the storage and the distribution of the clothing.

BARNES' HOME INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.—The situation of this Industrial School for Boys is in the Heaton Mersey portion of the Borough.

ALICE BRIGGS HOME (OPEN-AIR SCHOOL).—This Home, which is in close proximity to the Barnes' Home Industrial School, is entirely under the control of the Manchester Corporation.

COTTAGE HOMES.—Various homes for destitute children are provided by the Stockport Board of Guardians.

Ambulance Arrangements.

The Borough is well provided with ambulances, the Corporation having at their disposal six motor ambulances, and the Stockport Board of Guardians one motor ambulance.

FOR INFECTIOUS CASES :—On 5th March, 1929, there was purchased from Messrs. Hollingdrakes a new Ambulance Van to replace the old La Buire Ambulance.

The body of the new van was specially designed by Messrs. Hollingdrakes, at the request of your Health Committee, to serve the dual purpose of an Ambulance and a Disinfecting Van, and is mounted upon a 12-h.p. "Austin" chassis.

There are three motor ambulances stationed at the Isolation Hospital and used exclusively for the removal of infectious cases, bedding, etc.

NON-INFECTIOUS CASES AND ACCIDENT CASES.—The three other Corporation ambulances are stationed at the Fire Station and are available for accident cases and for the removal of patients to Hospital in

emergencies. In the latter cases a fee is charged which can be remitted with the sanction of the Watch Committee if the patient be in necessitous circumstances. The motor ambulance provided by the Poor Law Authorities is used in connection with the conveyance of patients to the Stepping Hill Poor Law Hospital.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

<i>Name and Situation.</i>	<i>By Whom Provided.</i>
Central School Clinic, 108, Wellington Road South, Stockport.....	Town Council.
Branch School Clinic at North Reddish Council School, Reddish	Do.
Tuberculosis Dispensary, Great Egerton Street, Stockport.....	Do.
Venereal Diseases Treatment Centre, do....	Do.
*Churchgate Child Welfare Centre, Churchgate House, Stockport.....	Do.
Reddish do., Stanhope Street, Reddish....	Do.
*Portwood do., 125, Great Portwood Street, Stockport.....	Do.
*Edgeley do., Edgeley Wesleyan Schools, Stockport.....	Do. by arrangements with Church Managers.
Wycliffe do., Wycliffe Congregational School, Stockport.....	Do., do.

* *Ante-Natal Clinics are held at the Centres and also at the Mile End Maternity Hospital.*

Professional Nursing in the Home.

*The Stockport Sick Poor and Private Nursing Association.
(President, Sir Thomas Rowbotham, J.P.).*

The Headquarters of the District Nursing Department of this Association known as the Barnsley Home for Nurses, is situated in Greek Street, Stockport. The Staff consists of a Matron and seven Nurses. The nursing of all classes of sickness is undertaken with the exception of certain cases of infectious disease, i.e., Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, etc. Arrangements have been made by your Council with the Committee of the Association for the provision of home nursing facilities in cases of Measles, Puerperal Fever, Ophthalmia Neonatorum and Pemphigus Neonatorum on the recommendation of the Medical Officer of Health. For this purpose your Council made a financial grant of 50 guineas during the year under review.

Arrangements have been made with the Stockport Insurance Committee for the nursing of sick insured persons approved of by the Committee at a rate of 1/- per visit.

I would take this opportunity of thanking the Matron of the Barnsley Home for her kindly consideration at all times and for her promptitude in attending to the cases referred to her by this Department. The excellent work carried out in the homes of the people by the members of the Local District Nursing Association is of inestimable value to the patients and is much appreciated by the Doctors in the town.

In connection with the Stockport Sick Poor and Private Nursing Association there is the Annie Walthew Nursing Home, Meadow Bank, Didsbury Road, Stockport, in which there is accommodation for Maternity, Surgical, and Medical Cases. Your Medical Officer of Health has the honour to be a member of the Sub-Committee responsible for the management of this Home.

Midwives. Full particulars of the arrangements of the District Midwifery Service are given in the section of the report dealing with Maternity and Child Welfare.

Chemical Work. The Public Analyst for Stockport is Mr. William Marshall, and details of the results of his analyses are given in tabular form in the section of this report dealing with Food and Drugs.

Local Powers Relating to Public Health.

(1) Acts of Parliament adopted by the Council.

Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1889.
 Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890.
 Housing of the Working-Classes Act, 1890.
 Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890.
 Baths and Washhouses Acts, 1846 to 1899.
 Notification of Births Act, 1907.

(2) Local Acts.

Stockport Corporation Act, 1899.
 Stockport Corporation Act, 1905.

(3) Byelaws.

Regulation of Markets, 1862.
 Prevention of Nuisances, 1865.
 Cleansing Footways, Privies, &c., 1865.
 Regulation of Public Baths, 1886.
 Common Lodging Houses, 1900.
 Houses Let in Lodgings, 1900.
 Tents, Vans, &c., used for Human Habitation, 1902.
 For the good rule and government of the Borough, and for the Prevention of Nuisances, 1903.
 Slaughter Houses, 1906.
 New Streets and Buildings, 1913.
 Water, 1915.
 Maternity Homes, 1926.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water. The Stockport Water Area covers about $80\frac{1}{2}$ square miles and has a population of 205,500. The average daily consumption of water for this area during 1929 was 6,379,000 gallons. The water was analysed at intervals and was found to be satisfactory.

During the year under review there was no material change in the sources of supply, particulars of which are as follows :—

<i>Site.</i>		<i>Reservoir.</i>		<i>Capacity.</i>
Disley	..	Horse Coppice Reservoir	..	73,000,000 gallons
„	..	Bollinhurst Reservoir	..	84,500,000 „
Hayfield	..	Kinder Reservoir	..	515,500,000 „
Wilmslow	..	Two Boreholes	..	Supply 750,000 „ per day.

By agreement a total quantity of about 1,400,000 gallons of water per day is available from the Manchester Corporation Longdendale Works.

Rivers and Streams. During the year a few instances of pollution of rivers and streams have been discovered by the Inspectors during the course of their routine work and the necessary action has been taken to have the defects remedied.

Drainage and Sewerage. The routine work of extension of drainage and sewerage rendered necessary by the erection of new houses has been proceeded with. In addition, the many schemes of re-drainage in consequence of the conversion of a very large number of privies to water-closets have received the careful attention of this Department. Further particulars of these conversions, the supervision of which has been admirably carried out by the Chief Inspector and his staff of District Inspectors during the year 1929, are given in a separate section of this report, vide pages 31 and 32.

Closet Accommodation. The question of the conversion of closets from conservancy systems to the water-carriage system has received the attention of the Health Department during the year under review. The results of this action are highly satisfactory and no less than 90 water-closets with cistern flush have been provided during the year. This work has been expeditiously and carefully carried out by Mr. Allsop, your Chief Inspector, and by the District Inspectors. I would take this opportunity of thanking them for the efficiency and tact they have all displayed in carrying out these onerous duties and of congratulating them upon the results achieved.

The work of conversion of the closet accommodation from that insanitary abomination, the privy midden, to the hygienic water-closet has been steadily pursued throughout the year and in no instance has it been necessary for the Department to carry out the work in consequence of default on the part of the owners.

During 1929, 15 Privies were converted to W.Cs. The numbers of conversions of this nature carried out in recent years are as follow :—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>No. of Privies converted to Water-Closets.</i>
1923.....	195
1924.....	238
1925.....	200
1926.....	619
1927.....	342
1928.....	125
1929.....	15

During the year under review, 13 Pail Closets and 9 Waste-Water Closets were converted to W.Cs., and 53 additional W.Cs. were provided.

90 W.Cs. were thus provided during the year.

Full details of this work are given in the following table :—

CONVERSIONS, ADDITIONAL WATER-CLOSETS, &c., PROVIDED DURING 1929.

<i>District.</i>	<i>Privies converted to W.Cs.</i>	<i>Additional W.Cs. provided.</i>	<i>Pail Closets converted into W.Cs.</i>	<i>Waste Water Closets converted into W.Cs.</i>	<i>Privy Middens abolished.</i>	<i>Dustbins provided where Middens abolished.</i>	<i>Dry Ashpits abolished.</i>	<i>Dustbins provided where Dry Ashpits abolished.</i>
No. 1.....	10	7	12	2	6	10	38	82
No. 2.....	4	17	—	1	3	2	11	37
No. 3.....	1	19	1	5	3	3	42	106
No. 4.....	—	8	—	1	—	—	26	64
No. 5.....	—	2	—	—	—	—	8	27
Total....	15	53	13	9	12	15	125	316
	90							

Scavenging. During the year there have been no material alterations in the methods of scavenging or of refuse disposal which are carried out by the Cleansing Department of the Corporation. Domestic and trade refuse is removed by motor vehicles or horse-drawn carts at regular intervals, and is collected and stacked in tips in various parts of the Borough. Careful and constant supervision of the tips by the Staff of the Cleansing Department reduces the risk of these tips becoming a nuisance and a menace to health but I am convinced that there is the need for the provision of at least one destructor for dealing with such refuse as decaying animal and vegetable matter. "Burn your Refuse" is an excellent slogan, but "Burn your refuse and save your rates" is useless advice to the housewife whose kitchen grate is not equipped to burn rubbish without causing a serious nuisance from black smoke. In a modern scientifically constructed destructor rubbish of all kinds can be incinerated without nuisance.

The substitution of dustbins for the large number of ashpits and privy middens abolished during the year has meant greater rapidity and increased efficiency in the removal of domestic refuse from the houses concerned.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

The routine work of sanitary inspection of the area has been systematically and efficiently carried out by your six District Sanitary Inspectors under the able supervision of your Chief Inspector, Mr. F. Allsop.

On 10th August, 1929, Mr. J. Ashton resigned his appointment as District Sanitary Inspector and Factory and Workshop Inspector to take up a business appointment in Manchester. Your Health Committee has placed on record its appreciation of Mr. Ashton's services to the town over a long period of years, and Mr. Ashton carries with him the best wishes of all his colleagues on the Staff for a successful future career. A re-organisation of the work of the District Inspectors thus necessitated has been carried out, and two new Inspectors, Mr. H. Howard and Mr. L. Crowther have been appointed.

Mr. Price, in addition to his district inspectorial work, now assists Mr. Allsop in the work of Meat and Food Inspection, and in the taking of samples under the Food and Drugs Acts. Each District Inspector is now responsible for all the inspectorial work in his own area, including nuisances, housing, infectious diseases, workshops, etc., inspection, and smoke abatement. The arrangements thus instituted have worked well and the District Inspectors have carried out their onerous duties with a high degree of efficiency.

District Sanitary Inspectors' Work.

The following is a Summary of the Work carried out by the District Inspectors during the Year :—

	DISTRICTS.					<i>Total.</i>
	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	No. 4	No. 5	
SPECIAL COMPLAINTS RECEIVED.....	37	68	59	39	9	212
INSPECTIONS MADE :—						
For Housing Purposes.....	399	302	359	240	404	1704
Re-visits during progress of work...	559	273	1073	608	1130	3643
Courts and Yards.....	472	230	361	414	153	1630
Re-inspections respecting Conversions	186	38	102	3	22	351
Dry Ashpits.....	159	58	270	169	49	705
Drainage.....	422	142	637	271	138	1610
Water Closet Inspections.....	534	281	623	464	140	2042
Water Courses.....	11	3	5	3	—	22
Picture Houses.....	53	46	28	15	2	144
Miscellaneous.....	323	235	546	564	150	1818
Interviews with Owners, Contractors, etc., re Sanitary Alterations.....	259	128	349	196	104	1036
INFECTIOUS DISEASES :—						
Cases inquired into.....	140	74	118	143	62	537
Cases removed to Hospital.....	120	60	84	110	42	416
Houses Disinfected.....	151	77	117	140	58	543
Schools and other Public Institutions Disinfected.....	—	—	—	1	4	5
Out-District Disinfections.....	—	—	—	—	—	1
Re-visits to Cases isolated at home..	90	42	48	22	40	242
Pneumonia cases inquired into.....	61	53	43	57	35	249
Malaria cases inquired into.....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery cases inquired into.....	—	—	—	—	1	1
Encephalitis Lethargica cases in- quired into.....	1	—	—	1	—	2
Cerebro-Spinal Fever cases inquired into.....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis cases inquired into	—	—	—	—	—	—
WATER CLOSETS, ETC. :—						
Water Closets cleansed (by Owners)...	21	53	59	91	30	254
Water Closets cleansed (by Occupiers).	3	7	1	—	—	11
Water Closet Pedestals, etc., re- newed or repaired.....	51	48	69	99	10	277
Water Supply Pipes or Cisterns to Water Closets repaired.....	102	72	111	149	85	519
Water Courses Cleansed.....	—	—	1	—	—	1
Dustbins Renewed	205	67	132	124	135	663

	DISTRICTS.					<i>Total.</i>
	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	No. 4	No. 5	
Houses Cleansed, Re-papered, or Lime-washed.....	—	7	8	—	2	17
Overcrowding Abated.....	1	—	—	—	—	1
Sink Waste Pipes Renewed or Repaired.	74	43	40	67	10	234
Downspout or Eaves Gutters Renewed or Repaired.....	179	104	169	116	21	589
House Drains Tested.....	17	13	20	12	2	64
House Drains and Drains to Water Closets Reconstructed or Repaired..	201	118	143	129	67	658
Gully Traps Fixed	23	25	23	19	11	101
Soilpipes and Ventilating Shafts Erected	18	17	20	13	11	79
Yards, Courts or Passages Drained or Drains Repaired.....	23	12	40	89	25	189
Yards, Courts or Passages Paved or Repaired.....	42	47	74	82	25	270
Yards, Courts or Passages Cleansed by Occupiers.....	1	—	—	2	—	3
Animals Improperly Kept—Removed.	—	—	2	2	—	4
Accumulations Removed.....	12	15	17	13	1	58
Notices (Informal) Served.....	303	88	192	114	121	818
Miscellaneous Nuisances.....	33	75	215	133	52	508

The following Table gives the Statutory Notices served during the year in respect of the Districts :—

<i>Notice.</i>	DISTRICTS.					<i>Total.</i>
	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	No. 4	No. 5	
Section 36, Public Health Act, 1875.....	5	—	1	—	—	6
Section 94, Public Health Act, 1875.....	10	4	2	5	5	26
Section 25, Stockport Corporation Act, 1905.....	5	—	1	4	—	10
Section 58, Stockport Corporation Act, 1899 ; and Section 23, Stockport Corporation Act, 1905.....	—	—	5	—	—	5

Factory and Workshop Act, 1901. The following statistical table is compiled from the Annual Report for the year 1929 of the Medical Officer of Health for the County Borough of Stockport on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in connection with Factories, Workshops, and Workplaces :—

1. INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

<i>Premises.</i>	<i>Number of</i>		
	<i>Inspections.</i>	<i>Written Notices.</i>	<i>Occupiers Prosecuted.</i>
Factories.....	189	—	—
Workshops.....	257	—	—
Workplaces.....	30	—	—
Total.....	476	—	—

2. DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

<i>Particulars.</i>	<i>Number of Defects.</i>			<i>Number of offences in respect to which Prosecutions were Instituted.</i>
	<i>Found.</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Referred to H.M. Inspector.</i>	
Want of Cleanliness.....	2	2	—	—
Other Nuisances.....	1	1	—	—
Unsuitable or Defective Sanitary Accommodation.	5	5	—	—
Illegal occupation of Underground Bakehouses.....	—	—	—	—
Total.....	8	8	—	—

There were no instances in which the attention of the Department was called to outworkers working in unwholesome premises during 1929.

476 visits of inspection were paid by your Inspectors to the various workplaces during the year.

3.—HOME WORK.

Nature of Work.	Outworkers' List. Section 107.						Outwork in unwholesome Premises, Section 108.			
	Lists received from Employers.			Number of Addresses of Out-workers received from other Councils.	Number of Addresses of Out-workers forwarded to other Councils.	Instances.	Notices served.	Prosecutions.		
	Twice in the Year.		Once in the Year.							
	Out-workers		Out-workers		Lists.	Con-tractors	Work-men			
	Lists.	Con-tractors	Work-men							
Wearing Apparel :—	22	10	184	1	..	1	21	34	..	..
(1) Making, etc.....										

Number of Inspections of Outworkers' Premises.....146

<i>Female Out-workers.</i>		<i>Male Out-workers.</i>	
NATURE OF WORK.	NO.	NATURE OF WORK.	NO.
Hat Trimming.....	93	Planking.....	2
Shirt Making.....	2	Boot and Shoe Repairing....	1
Garter Making.....	1	Tailoring.....	1
Hosiery.....	1		
Fancy Goods.....	2		
	—		—
	99		4
	—		—

Factory and Workshop Act, 1901.

8 notices were received from H.M. Inspector of Factories in respect of the following matters :—

Unsuitable and Defective Sanitary Accommodation.....	1
Insufficient Sanitary Accommodation.....	4
Accommodation not separate for sexes.....	—
Defective Ventilation.....	1
Limewashing W.Cs.....	2

In all instances the defects were remedied.

Smoke Abatement. The Public Health (Smoke Abatement) Act, 1926, came into operation upon 1st July, 1927.

During the year 48 smoke observations were taken of smoke from factories, and 12 from railway engines during shunting operations. In 7 instances the amount of smoke emitted was excessive and notices were sent to the owners requiring them to abate the nuisance. No legal proceedings were instituted.

During the year 1928 your Council secured membership of the Manchester and District Regional Smoke Abatement Committee, which deals with this important problem in an advisory capacity over an extensive area around Manchester.

Premises and Occupations which can be Controlled by Bye-Laws or Regulations.

Bye-Laws are in operation in the Borough with regard to Common Lodging-Houses and Houses Let in Lodgings.

Common Lodging-Houses.

There are 6 Common Lodging-Houses in the Borough with adequate accommodation for the needs of the district.

During the year 276 visits were paid to Common Lodging-Houses.

Bakehouses.

112 visits were paid to bakehouses during the year, and the premises were generally found to be in good condition as to cleanliness.

There are 3 underground bakehouses remaining in the Borough.

Offensive Trades.

There are in the Borough 20 premises in which one or other of the offensive trades is carried on, and 146 visits were made to these during the year.

The premises were found to be clean and well-kept and the trades carried on in such a manner as to avoid any cause for complaint.

Fairs and Wakes, and Travelling Vans.

In connection with Fairs and Vans 87 caravans used as dwelling-houses were inspected and in all cases the vans were found to be in a clean condition, and no sickness was discovered.

Shops Acts.

The number of shops on the Register on the 31st December, 1929, was 3,614.

The closing of shops is regulated by the Shops Acts, 1912 to 1928.

The work in connection with the early closing of shops is still carried out by the Watch Committee. This arrangement has been found to work extremely satisfactorily.

The Shops Inspector was also engaged as Ambulance Attendant during the year.

Poisons and Pharmacy Act.

One renewal of licence was granted during the year to a seed merchant to sell poisonous substances to which Section 2 of the Poisons and Pharmacy Act, 1908, applies, for use exclusively in connection with agriculture and horticulture, subject to his complying with the provisions of the Arsenic Act, 1851, the Pharmacy Act, 1868, and the Regulations made by Order in Council under the Poisons and Pharmacy Act, 1908.

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.

11 visits of inspection were made under the above Act and advice was given to the persons concerned as to the safest means of destruction in the various cases. It is known that some hundreds of rats were destroyed.

Schools.

There are thirty-two Public Elementary Schools in the Borough. The sanitary condition of the Schools is satisfactory and the water supply is pure and adequate.

(1) SCHOOL HYGIENE.

Mr. Yates, School Buildings' Surveyor, favours me with the following report :—

“ BELMONT COUNCIL SCHOOL.

The erection of this building has been completed, and the school was opened on Friday, August 30th, 1929. Accommodation is provided for 800 scholars (Mixed and Infants), and also for the teaching of Practical Science, Domestic Science and Manual Instruction.

Improvements at Elementary Schools have been carried out as follow :—

New Maple Floors.....	Parish Church of E. St. Peter's C.E. (Infants' Dept). Stockport R C.
Repairs to Playgrounds.....	Cale Green Council. Hollywood Park Council. South Reddish Council.
Improvements to Heating Installations and New Boilers	St. George's C.E. St. Matthew's C.E. St. Peter's C.E. Heaton Moor Council.

Advantage was taken of the opportunity presented by the failure of the Boilers to carry out the various improvements to heating installations The results have been highly satisfactory, and long standing complaints have been removed.

The improvements carried out at Heaton Moor Council School will give an adequate supply of heat in all the first-floor class-rooms without the open fires, which have previously been in use in conjunction with a smaller number of radiators.

Improvements to Electric Lighting.....	Alexandra Park Council. Parish Church of E.
--	--

DOMESTIC SCIENCE CENTRE, GREAT EGERTON STREET.

Outbuildings have been converted into latrines with provision for boys and girls, and the Yard has been paved with concrete flags.

(2) SCHOOL CLOSURE.

During 1929 it was not found necessary to recommend School Closure for infectious disease, but School Closure was carried out in the following instances in consequence of breakdown of the heating apparatus in the Schools concerned.

Full particulars of the work of the School Medical Department in supervising the health of our school population are given in my Annual Report upon the School Medical Service for 1929.

<i>School.</i>	<i>Cause of Closure.</i>	<i>Percentage of Children present.</i>	<i>Period of Exclusion.</i>
St. Joseph's R.C., Reddish (Mixed and Infants' Departments)	Breakdown of heating apparatus	—	From 7th January, to 11th January, inclusive.
Brentnall Street Council..	„	—	From 15th February, to 22nd February, inclusive.
St. George's C. of E. (Senior and Junior Departments)	„	—	Afternoon of 18th February, to 19th February inclusive.
Do.....	„	—	From 5th November, to 15th November, inclusive.

Public Wash-House.

The Public Wash-house, situated in Bann Street, which was opened in 1928, has continued to prove an unqualified success. Your Baths and Wash-houses Committee (Chairman, Councillor W. Hamlett) has had under consideration the needs of the town as regards Baths, Wash-houses, etc., and has had a Special Report prepared upon the subject by John A. Davenport, Esq., M.Sc., B.Eng., A.M.I.C.E.

As regards the future needs of the Borough for Public Wash-houses Mr. Davenport estimates that there will be required a total of 56 wash-stalls and accessories, or the equivalent number of washing machines. In referring to the Bann Street Wash-house he says "This is a modern establishment containing 30 wash-stalls, etc. It was opened in 1928, is well-placed, and doing good work. It can be included in any final scheme."

The women using the wash-house have frequently paid grateful tribute to the Tramways Committee for permitting the bundles of clothing to be carried to and from the wash-house free on the trams.

At the Corporation Public Baths at St. Petersgate, special facilities are provided for Turkish Baths, Artificial Sunlight Baths, etc. These arrangements are much appreciated by the public, who have readily availed themselves of the opportunities thus offered of securing health and cleanliness.

HOUSING.

The majority of the population in the Borough are housed in dwellings of the cottage type, "two up and two down," placed in rows. In the older parts of the Borough a certain number of courtyards have been formed by the interposition of dwellings between rows of cottage property. Overcrowding exists, as elsewhere throughout the country. 406 houses have been built during the year, but there exists a serious shortage of houses. The number of houses erected by the Municipality and by private enterprise since the war has only touched the fringe of the problem, and the arrears in house-building consequent upon the war and upon the abnormal conditions of the post-war period have not been overtaken.

Overcrowding is a serious matter not only for a community but also for its individual members and especially for the children. Where two or perhaps three families are huddled together in one small cottage it is impossible to rear children who will be strong and healthy in a physical, mental, or moral sense.

Where overcrowding exists it becomes exceedingly difficult to control epidemics of infectious disease.

The work of inspection for housing purposes has been ably carried out by your District Inspectors under the supervision of Mr. Allsop. The policy of the Department has been to secure that wherever possible houses shall be kept by the owners in such a state as to be reasonably fit for human habitation. Only essential repairs have been insisted upon and little difficulty has been experienced in obtaining the co-operation of property owners to secure the remedying of defects.

In view of the housing shortage it is essential that as many as possible of the existing houses shall be kept in a reasonable state of repair.

The following Table summarises the statistical findings in connection with housing work during 1929 :—

HOUSING CONDITIONS. GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres).....	7,059
Population (Census 1921, and estimated 1929), 125,200.....	127,800
Number of inhabited houses (1921).....	30,160
Number of families or separate occupiers (1921).....	30,225
Rateable Value.....	£823,991
Sum represented by a penny rate.....	£3,112

HOUSING.

Number of houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b)).....	406
(b) With State assistance under Housing Acts :—	
(1) By Local Authority.....	112
(2) By other Bodies or Persons.....	235

1. Unfit Dwelling-houses.	Districts.					Total.
	1	2	3	4	5	
INSPECTION.						
(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).....	716	429	747	448	698	3038
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, or the Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1925.....	317	127	388	208	294	1334
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.....	2	4	—	1	—	7
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.....	240	153	203	208	224	1028
2. Remedy of defects without Service of Formal Notices.						
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers.....	61	71	226	57	195	610

3. Action under Statutory Powers.	<i>Districts.</i>					<i>Total.</i>
	1	2	3	4	5	
A. Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925.						
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs.....	14	26	37	14	22	113
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—						
(a) By Owners.....	9	11	14	14	14	62
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners.....	—	—	—	—	—	—
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by Owners of intention to close.....	2	2	—	—	—	4
B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.						
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied... }						
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices..... }						
(a) By Owners.....						
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners }						
C. Proceedings under Sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925.						
(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders.....	—	—	—	—	—	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made.	—	—	—	—	—	—
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit.....	—	—	—	—	—	—
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.....	—	—	—	—	—	—
(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.....	—	—	—	—	—	—
(6) Number of dwelling-houses demolished by Owners.....	2	2	—	—	—	4

Included
in
previous
sections.

Unhealthy Areas.

The representation by your Medical Officer of Health with reference to the existence of an unhealthy area in a portion of No. 11, or St. Thomas's Ward, was dealt with in my Annual Report for 1927. A scheme is being prepared by the officials of the Corporation, but it has not been completed during the year under review.

There are signs that in the near future slum clearance schemes will receive more attention throughout the country generally. One of the greatest difficulties met with in carrying out schemes of this character is the question of the re-housing of that portion of the population displaced by slum clearance. This difficulty will be overcome to a great extent as soon as the shortage of housing accommodation becomes less acute.

The machinery for dealing with unhealthy areas is cumbersome and requires simplification.

Alterations in the procedure for dealing with unhealthy areas are contemplated in a Housing Bill at present before Parliament.

Paving, Sewering, &c.

I am indebted to H. Hamer, Esq., the Borough Surveyor, for the following information with regard to the amount of paving, sewerage, etc., carried out by his Department during 1929 :—

Number of Back Passages paved and sewered.....	2 (167 lineal yards)
Length of sewers laid.....	6379 lineal yards
Number of vertical shaft ventilators closed.....	—
Number of surface sewer ventilators closed.....	—
Old sewers taken up and re-laid.....	—
Number of Cellar dwellings closed for street improvements.....	14
Number of cellar areas closed.....	
Houses demolished for street improvements.....	—
Water-closets erected in connection with new houses and buildings.....	440
Houses built during the year.....	406
Houses in course of erection at the end of the year....	81

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

A. MILK SUPPLY.

The greater part of the milk supplied to Stockport comes from farms in Cheshire and the milk is generally of good quality.

It is of the utmost importance to secure for a community an adequate supply of pure wholesome milk, which is one of our staple articles of diet and which is indispensable for invalids and young children.

Milk makes an excellent medium for the growth of organisms of all kinds and is liable to contamination by disease producing germs. It is therefore necessary that the most scrupulous cleanliness be exercised by all those who are engaged in its production, storage, transport and distribution.

The farms and dairies in the area have been regularly inspected, and samples of milk have been examined chemically and bacteriologically at regular intervals.

Sediment Tests.

Sediment tests are now carried out at frequent intervals and the results of these tests are communicated to the farmer or dairyman concerned.

Milk and Cream Regulations, 1912 and 1917.

These Regulations have been revoked by the Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations, 1925 to 1927.

There are no premises in the Borough where cream is prepared and bottled for sale, but in several premises cream is placed in cartons preparatory to its sale.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Orders.

Your Inspector has made 209 visits of inspection to these places during the year when the cattle were inspected and observations as to general cleanliness were made. Minor repairs to drains, ventilators, etc., have been carried out in several instances.

483 visits have been made to the various milkshops.

The following letter was addressed to all registered milk dealers within the area of the County Borough by your Medical Officer of Health on 6th November, 1929 :—

“ Dear Sir (Madam),

THE MILK AND DAIRIES (CONSOLIDATION) ACT, 1915.

THE MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926.

From time to time doubt has arisen in the minds of persons holding licences for the sale of milk from premises within the area of the County Borough of Stockport, as to the position which arises when there is a change of tenancy of the registered premises.

I am instructed by the Health Committee of the Stockport Corporation to remind you that under the above-named enactments, in addition to the registration of the premises used as a dairy, registration of the person carrying on the trade of cowkeeper or dairyman is necessary.

I am further instructed to inform you that licences issued by the Corporation in this connection are liable to be revoked if through any act or default on the part of the licensee the public health is likely to be endangered thereby.

In the event of a change of ownership or tenancy of the registered premises being contemplated, application should be made to the Medical Officer of Health, Town Hall, Stockport, for information as to the procedure necessary to secure compliance with the Regulations.

Yours faithfully,

N. GEBBIE, M.D., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.”

Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922.

50 samples of milk have been submitted for bacteriological examination, representing the mixed milk from 50 farms. In 7 instances the samples contained tubercle bacilli. The cases were followed up with the result that the affected cows were surrendered and destroyed.

Milk (Mothers and Children) Order, 1919.

On page 94 is found a statement of the administration of the Milk (Mothers and Children) Order, 1919, with details as to the quantity of milk supplied to infants and to expectant and nursing mothers, in necessitous cases, either free or at less than cost price.

B. MEAT, &c.

There are 23 Slaughter-houses in the Borough to which 489 visits of inspection have been made, and it was not found necessary to serve notices for defects.

There is no Public Abattoir in the Borough. Inspection is carried out by the Food Inspectors at the private slaughter-houses.

The various shops where food is stored, premises where sausages, etc., are made, and the Market, have been regularly visited. The following is a summary of the unsound food dealt with by your Inspector and subsequently destroyed :—

	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>
Bovine Tuberculosis.....	6	19	1	10
Pig Tuberculosis.....	1	1	3	14
Bovine unsound.....	1	2		18
Bovine, physic.....	—	4	1	20
Inflamation, Lungs.....	—	—	—	12
Abscess, Liver.....	—	—	—	14
Pork, unsound.....	—	—	—	5
Fish, unsound.....	—	1	3	—
Total.....	9	10	0	9

Unsound.

Avian Tuberculosis.. .. .	1 Chicken.
Meat }	
Milk }	.. .. . 296 Tins.
Fruit }	

C. ADULTERATION, &c.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

7 samples have been found to be adulterated as compared with 16 in the previous year.

Of the 233 samples submitted for analysis, 206 were samples of milk, and of these 6 were found to be adulterated.

The following tables show the percentage of adulteration, as compared with other years, and the Analyst's reports thereon :—

Analysis of Food and Drugs.

<i>Articles Analysed.</i>	<i>Number Analysed.</i>	<i>Result of Analyses.</i>		<i>Extent of Adulteration.</i>	<i>Action Taken.</i>
		<i>Genuine.</i>	<i>Adulterated.</i>		
				Formal Samples.	
Milk.....	206	200	6	7.06% extraneous water.....	Prosecuted.
				5.5% "	"
				5.5% "	"
				4.7% "	"
				3.6% "	"
				1.6% "	"
Rum.....	1	—	1	9.7% excess water	"
Butter.....	12	12	—		
Coffee.....	14	14	—		
Total.....	233	226	7		

There were 6 informal samples taken during the year.

The following tables show the percentage of adulteration compared with previous years :—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Total Samples analysed.</i>		<i>Adulterated.</i>		<i>Percentage adulteration.</i>
1920	..	360	..	8	2.22
1921	..	360	..	16	4.4
1922	..	361	..	26	7.2
1923	..	326	..	12	3.68
1924	..	360	..	19	5.28
1925	..	360	..	17	4.72
1926	..	361	..	11	3.05
1927	..	360	..	9	2.5
1928	..	360	..	16	4.4
1929	..	239	..	7	2.929

Analysis of *milk samples* compared with previous years :—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Total Samples analysed.</i>		<i>Adulterated.</i>		<i>Percentage. adulteration.</i>
1920	..	239	..	6	2.51
1921	..	223	..	9	4.04
1922	..	233	..	10	4.3
1923	..	187	..	7	3.74
1924	..	243	..	13	5.35
1925	..	211	..	10	4.74
1926	..	226	..	8	3.54
1927	..	225	..	7	3.11
1928	..	276	..	13	4.7
1929	..	212	..	6	2.83

Mr. William Marshall, F.I.C., F.C.S., was appointed Public Analyst to the County Borough of Stockport on 2nd January, 1929, in succession to Mr. James Porter Shenton, resigned.

During the year Mr. Marshall carried out his work in a careful and painstaking manner, and his reports have been highly satisfactory.

The Cheshire County Analyst deputised during Mr. Marshall's absence from duty in consequence of illness, and the arrangements worked admirably. Mr. Marshall, I am glad to say, has made a splendid recovery and has returned to full duty.

Legal Proceedings during the Year 1929.

OFFENCE.	RESULT.	FINE.
SELLING ADULTERATED MILK :—		
7.06% extraneous water.....	Convicted	£2, Analyst's & Advocate's fees.
5.5% ,,	,,	£3, ,, ,,
5.5% ,,	,,	£2 and Analyst's fee.
4.7% ,,	Dismissed	Costs.
3.6% ,,	,,	Costs.
SELLING ADULTERATED RUM :—		
9.7% added water.....	Convicted	£10, Analyst's & Advocate's fees.
For an offence against "The Stockport Butchers' Half-Holiday and Closing Order, 1921".....	,,	5/-
,, ,,	,,	5/-
For an offence against the Shops (Hours of Closing) Act, 1928...	,,	10/-
,, ,,	,,	5/-
,, ,,	,,	5/-
,, ,,	,,	2/6

ICE CREAM VENDORS.

These places have been visited 33 times during the year. One owner was requested to inscribed his name and address on the vehicles used by him for the sale of ice cream. It was not found necessary to serve any notices as to cleansing of premises, etc.

PART II.

Infectious Diseases.

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious Disease.

The total number of cases of infectious diseases notified to your Medical Officer of Health during 1929 was 852, as compared with 1,295 during the previous year. The number 1,295 for 1928 included 523 cases of chicken pox.

During the year under review, one case of Small-pox was notified, as compared with 11 cases in 1928. Notifications of cases of Scarlet Fever continued to decline from 840 in 1926, 545 in 1927, and 265 in 1928, to 210 in 1929. There has been a very considerable reduction in the incidence of Scarlet Fever in all parts of the Borough, and the disease continued to be of mild type. Mild cases of Scarlet Fever make the work of control of an epidemic most difficult. Many of the patients suffered so little inconvenience at the onset of the illness that they were not confined to bed nor did they seek medical aid until several weeks had elapsed and desquamation had commenced.

Notifications of Diphtheria during 1929 numbered 250 as compared with 104 in 1926, 109 in 1927, and 189 in 1928.

Of the 210 cases of Scarlet Fever notified, 178, or 84.8 per cent., were removed for isolation and treatment to your Isolation Hospital at Cherry Tree Lane, Stockport.

Of the 250 cases of Diphtheria notified, 236, or 94.4 per cent., were isolated and treated in the Isolation Hospital.

The services of your Medical Officer of Health have been available for purposes of consultation upon doubtful cases of Infectious Diseases, and during the period under review he has seen 29 cases in consultation with his medical colleagues.

Measures taken to control epidemics of infectious disease depend for their efficiency upon the receipt of early information of the occurrence of cases. Prompt notification is of great value, but delayed notification is useless. In this connection I would express my thanks to my medical colleagues for their loyal co-operation and their valuable help. Information is sent by your Medical Officer of Health to the Medical Officer of Health of the district concerned when persons from outside districts have been in contact with cases of Infectious Disease in this area. Inter-notification of cases in this way when promptly and efficiently carried out is of great value in dealing with epidemics of Infectious Disease.

The removal of cases to the Isolation Hospital, the investigation of the home conditions by the Sanitary Inspectors, and the disinfection of the premises, bedding, etc., have been carried out in a highly satisfactory manner by the Officers of this Department.

The following table contains information as to the age incidence of, and mortality from, cases of notifiable Infectious Diseases during 1929 :—

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1929.

DISEASE.	Total cases notified.	At Ages—Years.												Cases admitted to Fever Hospital.	Cases treated in Sanatoria, etc.	Total Deaths.	Deaths at age periods.											
		—1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 & upw'ds.				—1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 & upw'ds.
Smallpox	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever	210	..	6	12	11	11	102	30	14	22	2	..	..	178	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria	250	3	9	10	18	19	126	41	13	10	1	..	..	236	..	6	..	2	..	1	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enteric Fever	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Fever	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	4	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..
Puerperal Pyrexia	32	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	26	3	1	..	..	20	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Erysipelas	74	..	..	..	..	..	6	..	2	12	11	31	12	..	15	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	3
Pneumonia :																												
Acute Primary	173	5	4	3	4	2	8	6	16	27	32	52	14	..	70	76	..	1	..	..	..	2	1	..	8	13	35	16
Acute Influenzal	76	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	7	15	11	23	11	..	6	38	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	3	9	13	10
Malaria .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dysentery	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	26	26	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Encephalitis Lethargica...	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..
Acute Polio-Encephalitis.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Acute Poliomyelitis .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total...	851	35	21	26	34	34	244	80	54	119	60	107	37	417	119	131	..	4	1	2	..	5	2	1	16	22	49	29

$\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{x}} \right) = \frac{\partial L}{\partial x}$

[illegible]

The seasonal prevalence of these various diseases is indicated in the following table which shews the notifications received in the various months of the year 1929 :—

DISEASE.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.
Smallpox.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Scarlet Fever.....	14	14	8	18	17	17	18	14	18	24	31	17	210
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup .	20	24	17	19	17	20	16	9	29	27	28	24	250
Typhoid Fever.....	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
Puerperal Fever.....	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	4
Puerperal Pyrexia.....	1	1	..	2	3	5	3	2	2	4	7	2	32
Erysipelas.....	6	7	7	7	6	5	7	5	2	6	7	9	74
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.....	2	..	3	5	1	3	4	..	3	5	..	..	26
Encephalitis Lethargica.....	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	2
Acute Polio-Encephalitis.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Acute Poliomyelitis.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tuberculosis—													
Pulmonary.....	24	10	15	18	12	12	12	10	6	11	30	8	168
Other Forms.....	15	5	3	6	12	3	5	3	2	5	23	6	88
Malaria.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dysentery.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Acute Primary Pneumonia.....	23	34	21	8	14	11	9	7	8	16	14	8	173
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia.....	10	36	15	3	4	2	1	..	1	2	1	1	76
Totals.....	117	131	90	86	86	79	77	50	71	101	142	77	1107

Notifiable Infectious Diseases.

Smallpox.

During 1929, Smallpox of mild type was prevalent in many districts of England and Wales. In Stockport we were exceedingly fortunate to escape invasion of this disease. Several Stockport residents were reported to have been in contact with cases of Smallpox. Vaccination or Re-Vaccination of contacts was advised and continuous observation was kept over contacts of this disease for a period of sixteen days.

Only one case of Smallpox was notified to your Medical Officer of Health, the circumstances being as follow :—

C.H.W., a boy of a 11 years of age, was seen by your Medical Officer of Health, in consultation with Dr. Robertson, at the latter's surgery, on 31st July, 1929. The patient was reported to have been vaccinated three years ago, and there was on the left arm one small vaccination scar.

He had a mild papular eruption which we diagnosed as Smallpox, and the patient was removed to the Hyde Smallpox Hospital on 1st August, 1929. The usual precautions with regard to vaccination of contacts and disinfection of premises, etc., were taken.

The diagnosis was subsequently confirmed in Hospital by one of the Medical Inspectors of the Ministry of Health.

It was impossible to trace the source of infection but our investigations to that end elicited the following information :—

He left Cleveland, Ohio, on 12th July, 1929, by train arriving in New York on 13th, and proceeded at once on board the S.S. "Adriatic" (White Star Line). He left New York on the same day, arrived at Liverpool on 22nd, and reached Stockport on the same day. The date of onset of the rash was given as 29th July, i.e., one week later.

The Liverpool Health Authority and the Shipping Company concerned were immediately informed of the facts of the case.

The boy made an uninterrupted recovery and was discharged from Hospital on 21st August, 1929.

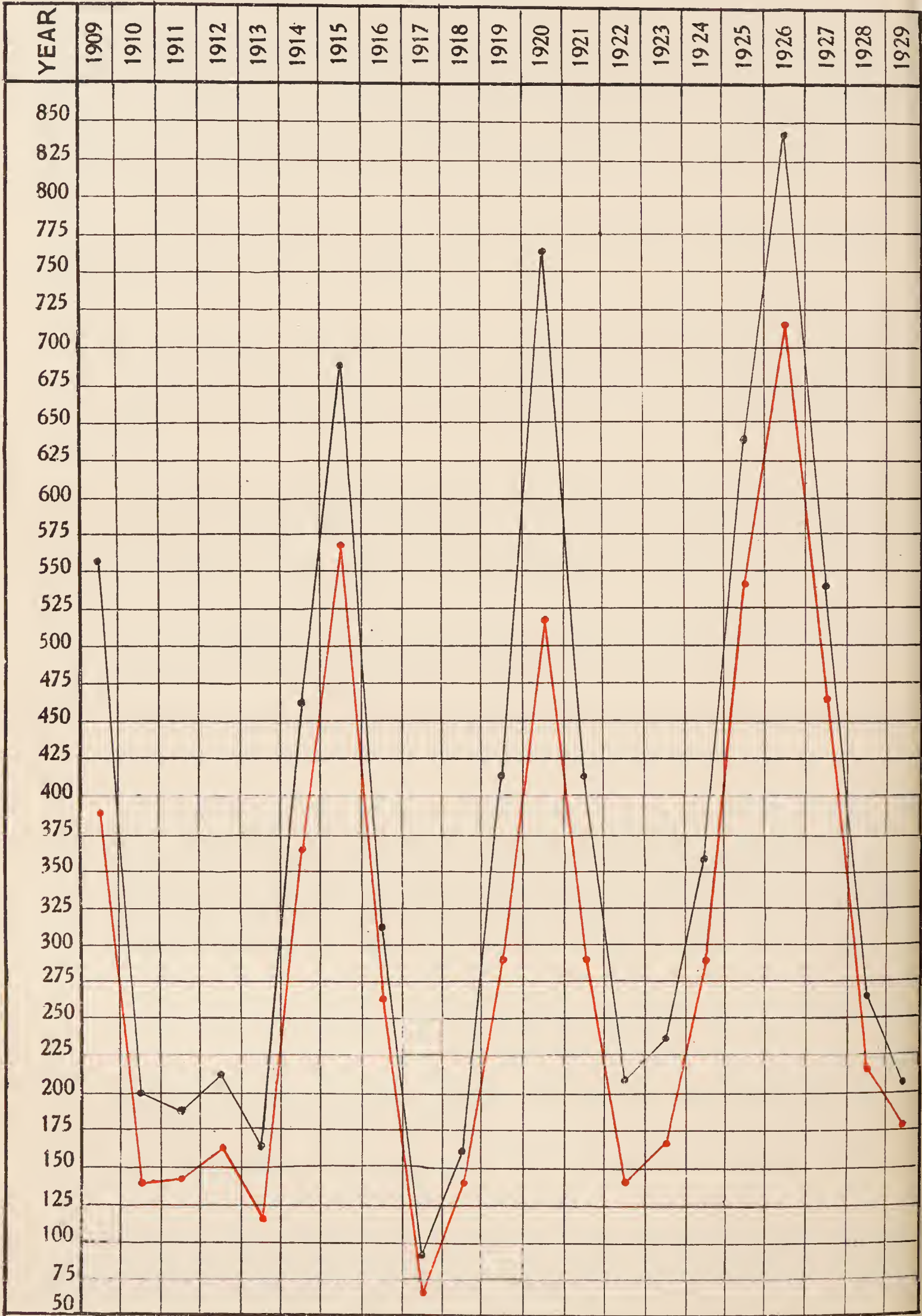
No further cases were reported.

To H. Barlow, Esq., Clerk to the Guardians, I am indebted for his kindness in furnishing the following information with regard to vaccination returns for the County Borough from 1919 to 1928 :—

Chart shewing the number of cases of Scarlet Fever for the past 21 years.

No. of cases notified in black.

No. of cases removed to Hospital in red.



VACCINATION RETURNS FOR THE COUNTY BOROUGH OF STOCKPORT
FOR THE PAST 10 YEARS.

	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928
Births	1959	2890	2567	2197	2210	2067	2077	2017	1859	1856
Successfully vaccinated...	847	1287	1136	976	1046	970	898	922	819	722
Insusceptible of vaccination.....	—	—	1	2	2	2	2	12	3	11
Died unvaccinated.....	137	205	173	135	139	108	130	104	129	120
Exemptions.....	812	1179	1051	938	748	745	832	804	713	827
Postponement by Medical Certificate.....	37	92	68	42	66	90	74	61	83	73
Removed: Address unknown.....	52	73	57	45	49	72	67	49	52	41
Had Smallpox.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Removed to other districts										
Vaccination Officer notified.....	12	32	47	46	53	72	56	52	49	53
Unaccounted for.....	62	22	37	13	27	8	18	13	11	9
*Successful primary vaccinations at all ages	988	1410	1354	1063	1125	1088	1012	953	1530	814

* The number of successful primary vaccinations at all ages during 1929 was 660.

Scarlet Fever.

The epidemic of Scarlet Fever which was noted in 1925 and 1926 abated during 1928 and, during the twelve months under review 210 cases of this disease were notified to your Health Department. Fortunately most of the cases were of mild type. Many of the cases were so mild, and the initial symptoms were so slight, that the illness was considered to be of a trivial nature. It was only on the occurrence of desquamation that Scarlet Fever was suspected and medical aid sought.

The foregoing chart illustrates the recurrence of periods of epidemic prevalence of Scarlet Fever at intervals of five or six years.

It will be seen that the year 1926 was a "peak" year with 840 cases. The figure of 210 cases in 1929 shews a satisfactory diminution in the prevalence of Scarlet Fever.

The chart referred to points to the periodicity of Scarlet Fever epidemics, indicates an increasing number of cases occurring at each epidemic and warns us that additional accommodation in Hospital will have to be provided for the cases within the next few years.

The attitude of the public towards the question of Hospital Isolation of cases of infectious disease has undergone a complete change in recent years.

Parents as a rule gladly avail themselves of the opportunities of securing admission of the children to hospital, with the result that in times of epidemic prevalence, our accommodation for these cases becomes inadequate to meet the demand. Undoubtedly many mild cases can be isolated at home with

very little risk to the community, but in these days of housing shortage home isolation is difficult of attainment. Cases of a severe character occur from time to time, even in the midst of an epidemic of mild type, which require the skilled nursing and special attention which can only be secured in an efficient up-to-date Isolation Hospital.

Your Hospital Sub-Committee has under consideration the provision of additional accommodation, probably of cubicle type, at the Isolation Hospital.

Should such a scheme materialise due consideration will be given to the needs of the community as regards severe complicated cases of Measles and Whooping Cough, and arrangements will be made for utilising the accommodation to the best advantage during inter-epidemic periods.

<i>Ward.</i>	<i>Number of cases of Scarlet Fever notified during the year 1929</i>	<i>Estimated Popula- tion.</i>	<i>Percentage of cases removed to Isolation Hospital.</i>	<i>Incidence of Scarlet Fever per 1,000 of the Population</i>
Lancashire Hill.....	7	5705	100	1.23
Heaton Lane.....	9	6215	100	1.45
Old Road.....	4	5870	100	0.68
Portwood.....	3	8040	100	0.37
St. Mary's.....	6	2920	83	2.05
Vernon.....	15	6580	100	2.28
Spring Bank.....	6	4225	100	1.42
Hollywood.....	11	9270	91	1.19
Edgeley.....	20	11585	80	1.73
Shaw Heath.....	12	10840	83	1.11
St. Thomas's.....	1	5145	100	0.19
Hempshaw Lane.....	7	5560	100	1.26
Cale Green.....	9	6325	100	1.42
Heaviley.....	24	12190	75	1.97
Reddish North.....	40	9805	80	4.08
Reddish South.....	14	6215	86	2.25
Heaton Norris North.....	5	5220	80	0.96
Heaton Norris South.....	11	6090	34	1.81
Infirmary.....	4	..	100	..
Union Workhouse.....	.	..	..	..
Union Hospital.....	1	..	100	..
Isolation Hospital.....	..	..	..	..
Barnes' Home Indus- trial School.....	1	..	100	..

Diphtheria.

250 cases of Diphtheria were notified during the year as compared with 189 cases during 1928. The cases were of a sporadic nature and were distributed throughout the town.

The home conditions in each case were carefully investigated by your Sanitary Inspectors and preventive measures were adopted.

The Medical Attendant of each case notified was requested to examine all contacts and to take swabs from the throats, etc., of contacts for bacteriological examination if necessary. Materials for taking cultures from the throat, nose, etc., for bacteriological examination are provided for the use of medical practitioners on application to the Stockport Infirmary.

Outfits containing Diphtheria Antitoxin and syringe are kept at the Town Hall and Police Stations for the use of medical men as follows :—

- (1) At Town Hall.—Outfits each containing phials of 4,000 and 6,000 units.
- (2) At Police Station, Vernon Street.—3 Outfits each containing phials of 4,000 and 6,000 units.
- (3) At Police Station, Reddish.—Outfit containing phials of 4,000 and 6,000 units.

Outfits after use are returned to the Town Hall and after the contents have been replenished and the syringe, etc., sterilized at the Isolation Hospital they are re-distributed for use. I have to thank the Matron of the Isolation Hospital for making the necessary arrangements for the careful sterilization of these outfits.

No charge is made for the use of these outfits provided not more than a maximum of 10,000 Units of Antitoxin is used in any individual case. In this way the early use of Antitoxin as a preventive is encouraged.

Typhoid Fever.

Two cases of Typhoid Fever were reported during the year as compared with 8 cases in 1928. One of the cases was treated in the Isolation Hospital.

Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia.

Notification of cases of these diseases is governed by the Public Health (Notification of Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia) Regulations as amended by the Public Health (Notification of Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia) Amendment Regulations, 1928.

During the year, 32 notifications of Puerperal Pyrexia and 4 notifications of Puerperal Fever were received. Full details of these cases are given in the section of this Report dealing with Maternity and Child Welfare, vide page 88.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

26 cases of this disease were notified during the year as compared with 26 cases in 1928.

Pemphigus Neonatorum.

Particulars of the occurrence of cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum and of Pemphigus Neonatorum are given in the section of this report dealing with Maternity and Child Welfare, vide pages 88 and 89.

Erysipelas.

74 cases were notified during the year as compared with 60 in 1928. Of these cases 15 received institutional treatment, and there were 5 fatal cases.

Pneumonia.

Two forms of Pneumonia are compulsorily notifiable to the Medical Officer of Health :—

- (1) Acute Primary Pneumonia—Number of cases notified during 1929—173.
- (2) Acute Influenzal Pneumonia—Number of cases notified during 1929—76.

Of these cases, 76 of Acute Primary Pneumonia and 38 of Acute Influenzal Pneumonia proved fatal.

Malaria and Dysentery.

One case of Dysentery was notified during the year, but no information reached the Department as to the occurrence of fresh cases of Malaria.

Tuberculosis.

During 1929, 168 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified ; of these 112 were males and 56 females.

88 cases of other forms of Tuberculosis were notified during the same period, 53 males and 35 females.

Encephalitis Lethargica.

Two cases of this disease were notified as compared with 9 cases in 1928. Both of these cases proved fatal. Special reports were received from the Doctors in attendance upon these cases. I would take this opportunity of thanking my medical colleagues for their kindness in furnishing particulars of their cases of this disease.

Encephalitis Lethargica is a very fatal disease and in a proportion of the survivors serious alteration in the mental condition and in the moral outlook is met with. This disease is believed to be communicable from one person to another, and in Stockport your Health Committee has arranged for cases in the acute stage of the illness to be isolated and treated at your Isolation Hospital and for disinfection of the premises, etc., to be carried out.

Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.

There were no cases of this disease notified during 1929.

Acute Poliomyelitis.

There were no cases of this disease notified during 1929.

Anthrax.

Information was received of the occurrence of one case of Anthrax during the year.

The patient was a youth employed by a firm of bristle, bass, and fibre merchants

The circumstances of the case were investigated and the necessary preventive measures were taken in conjunction with Mr. Makepeace, H.M. Inspector of Factories.

The patient was treated at Stockport Infirmary and made a successful recovery.

Measles and Whooping Cough.

These diseases are not compulsorily notifiable within the County Borough of Stockport, but information as to the occurrence of cases is obtained from the School Medical Officers, School Nurses, Attendance Officers, Parents, and from the Health Visitors during the course of their district visitations.

Measles and Whooping Cough are really serious diseases of childhood because of the tendency for the occurrence of complications affecting the respiratory organs, e.g., Bronchitis, Broncho-Pneumonia, and Pneumonia.

During the year one death was ascribed to Measles and 19 to Whooping Cough. Cases of Measles and Whooping Cough are visited and the parents are advised as to the need for medical assistance and as to measures for the prevention of complications.

Bacteriological Examinations.

The routine Bacteriological work is carried out at the Stockport Infirmary Pathological Department, under arrangements made by your Health Committee with the Infirmary Board, and at the Public Health Laboratory, York Place, Manchester.

The results of the examinations carried out during the year were as follows :—

	<i>Positive.</i>		<i>Total.</i>
Diphtheria.....	277	..	1570
Typhoid.....	—	..	3
Other Bacteriological Examinations :			
<i>Maternity Hospital.</i>			
Swabs.....	—	..	47
Faeces..	—	..	2
Urine.....	—	..	2

During the year the following specimens were examined at the Public Health Laboratory, York Place, Manchester :—

	<i>Positive.</i>		<i>Total.</i>
Swabs (Throat and Nasopharynx).....	—	..	6
Typhoid.....	—	..	1
Bovine Tuberculosis in Milk.....	7	..	50

The examination of sputa in suspected cases of phthisis is carried out at the Tuberculosis Dispensary, Great Egerton Street, 490 examinations being carried out there during 1929, of which 101 were positive and 389 negative.

Particulars of the examination of Pathological Material in connection with Venereal Disease, which is mainly carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester, are given on page 81.

Disinfection.

Disinfection of premises after infectious diseases is carried out by the Staff of your Health Department.

Infected materials, bedding, etc., are removed to the Isolation Hospital for disinfection.

During the year 12,700 articles were thus disinfected.

The disinfection of infected materials and the cleansing of persons would be considerably facilitated if a Cleansing Station were established in a central position in the town.

Library Books which have been in contact with cases of Scarlet Fever, etc., are removed from infected premises and are dealt with in one of the following ways :—

- (1) Valuable Books, Rare Editions, and Books which cannot be replaced are taken to the Isolation Hospital and are submitted to disinfection by means of hot dry air.

This process is carefully carried out, but the efficient disinfection of books is exceedingly difficult to secure. In such instances it is impossible to guarantee freedom from infection on completion of the process and the librarians concerned are advised to withdraw the books from circulation for a time thereafter.

- (2) Books in a dirty and dilapidated state are destroyed.

- (3) Books suitable for use in the Isolation Hospital are retained there for inclusion in the patients' library.

The above mentioned arrangements were put into operation during the year and have been approved by your Libraries Committee.

In the case of private circulating libraries similar facilities are offered to the proprietors who have co-operated most loyally with your Medical Officer of Health in this matter.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

Your Isolation Hospital situated in Cherry Tree Lane, has accommodation for 78 cases and is utilised for the isolation and treatment of cases of acute infectious disease occurring within the County Borough.

Your Medical Officer of Health is Medical Superintendent of the Hospital and has been ably assisted in the conduct of the Hospital by Dr. James Worthington, the Deputy Medical Superintendent; Miss T. P. Cranmore, the Matron; and the Nursing and Domestic Staffs. I would take this opportunity to thank the Chairman and members of the Hospital Sub-Committee for their keen personal interest in the Hospital and their kindly consideration at all times for the welfare of the patients. I am deeply indebted to Dr. Worthington for his willing co-operation and able help in the medical work at the Hospital.

The results of treatment at the Hospital have been highly satisfactory. Of the 178 cases of Scarlet Fever and 236 of Diphtheria admitted from the Borough during the year only one case of Scarlet Fever and 6 of Diphtheria proved fatal.

Each case prior to discharge was carefully examined as to freedom from infection, and the number of "return" cases was comparatively small.

The accompanying table sets forth the statistics of the work of the Hospital and of the results of treatment of the cases during 1929 :—

BOROUGH ISOLATION HOSPITAL, CHERRY TREE LANE, STOCKPORT.

<i>Name of Disease.</i>	<i>In Hospital 1st Jan., 1929.</i>	<i>Admitted.</i>	<i>Recovered and Discharged</i>	<i>Died.</i>	<i>In Hospital 31st Dec., 1929.</i>
Scarlet Fever..	30	†179	182	1	26
Typhoid Fever.	—	1	—	—	1
Diphtheria.....	19	236	227	6	22
Other Causes....	—	*6	2	‡3	1
Totals.....	49	422	411	10	50

† Including one case from the area of the Denton Urban District Council.

* 1 notified as Scarlet Fever, 4 as Diphtheria, and 1 as Dysentery.

‡ Notified as Diphtheria.

3 cases of Diphtheria were removed to Monsall Fever Hospital from Alice Briggs' Open Air School, Didsbury Road.

During the year 1929 it has not been possible to use systematically the Schick Test for Diphtheria and the Dick Test for Scarlet Fever in the routine work of the Hospital. These tests, now used extensively in the United States of America, are of value in the diagnosis of certain doubtful cases, but so far their use in this country has been somewhat limited.

CASES TREATED FROM 1910 TO 1929 INCLUSIVE, IN ISOLATION HOSPITALS.

	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929
Smallpox.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	11	1
Scarlet Fever....	175	150	199	132	374	626	355	92	146	314	597	365	184	187	338	611	808	602	283	209
Enteric.....	8	7	6	21	17	23	15	24	17	11	3	2	5	1	4	1	2	5	6	1
Diphtheria.....	14	14	17	44	27	57	55	26	69	73	167	145	112	99	55	86	92	112	193	255
Other Diseases...	0	0	1	1	0	3	7	13	2	3	0	0	3	0	2	0	30	14	10	6
Totals.....	197	171	223	198	418	709	432	155	234	401	767	512	304	287	399	698	932	739	503	472

“Return Cases” are essentially a Hospital question. When a case of Scarlet Fever has been discharged from Hospital to his own home, and within a certain period, i.e., 28 days, another member of his family contracts Scarlet Fever and is admitted to the Hospital, the second case is referred to as a “Return Case.” Such cases have been the subject of special investigation by the Officers of your Department, and the following table shews the results of these investigations.

On discharge from your isolation Hospital the parents of each child receive written instructions as to the measures to be adopted to prevent the occurrence of such cases, but, of course, it is difficult to ensure that these instructions will be carried out. I am convinced that such articles as toys and books which have been hidder away during the child's absence from the home, and which are brought into use on the child's return, are responsible for many “Return Cases.”

During the year under review I have continued to interview the relatives of patients who are undergoing treatment at the Isolation Hospital. The times set aside for this purpose are 9-30 a.m. to 10 a.m. on Wednesdays and Saturdays, and interviews are given at my office at the Town Hall. During 1929, 1,586 interviews were granted for this purpose.

The patients' relatives are thus enabled to obtain a personal report upon the progress of the cases which is supplemented by the daily progress reports published at the Town Hall, at the Reddish Police Station, and in the columns of the daily Press.

The arrangements referred to are much appreciated by the patients' relatives as are the kindly consideration and devoted service of the Hospital Matron and her Staff.

In the treatment of Scarlet Fever cases I have continued during the year the use of Serum treatment for severe cases. The number treated is too small to permit of definite conclusions as to the value of this method of treatment, but there is no doubt that the period of acute illness in these cases is reduced by the use of serum from a week or more to 48 hours. So far the statistics available do not point to any marked reduction in the duration of stay in Hospital or in the incidence of complications in cases receiving Serum treatment.

TABULAR STATEMENT OF "RETURN CASES" OF SCARLET FEVER.

DISCHARGED PATIENTS.						Notes as to any abnormality.		Onset and number of Return Case.	Interval between Discharge of Patient and onset of Return Case.
No. in Register.	Age.	Sex.	Date of Discharge.	Days in Hospital	Length of Illness.				
						On Discharge.	After Discharge.		
581	8½	M	22/1/29	45	47	..	..	2/2/29 (52)	11 days
591	7½	M	25/1/29	39	43	..	..	7/2/29 (69)	13 „
42	3¾	M	22/3/29	51	53	..	Tonsillitis	11/4/29 (145)	20 „
58	6½	F	26/3/29	48	50	..	..	17/4/29 (154)	22 „
91	6½	F	19/4/29	53	56	..	..	21/4/29 (163)	2 „
108	4¾	F	26/4/29	45	47	..	Nasal catarrh	6/5/29 (190)	10 „
144	12	M	7/6/29	54	61	..	..	29/6/29 (277)	22 „
166	2¾	M	7/6/29	43	44	..	..	13/6/29 (249)	6 „
272	5 11/12 yrs	F	26/7/29	31	33	..	..	14/8/29 (342)	19 „

PART III.

Tuberculosis.

Tuberculosis.

Notification of Tuberculosis.

256 cases of Tuberculosis were notified during the year as compared with 214 in the previous year.

Of the 256 cases thus notified 168 were cases of Tuberculosis of the Lungs and 88 were cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

In addition to the above, there were 13 cases, 11 Pulmonary and 2 Non-pulmonary, which ended fatally and which had not been notified in accordance with the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations. The ratio of deaths of non-notified cases to total deaths from Tuberculosis was thus one in nine. In these non-notified cases the attention of the Medical Practitioner in attendance is drawn to the fact that the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations have not been complied with.

The number of deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis during the year was 121 as compared with 107 in the previous year, giving a death-rate of 0.95 per thousand of the population.

In the following table of New Cases and Mortality during 1929 all primary notifications are included together with other new cases of Tuberculosis coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the year :—

TUBERCULOSIS.

AGE-PERIODS.	NEW CASES.				TOTAL DEATHS.			
	<i>Pulmonary.</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary.</i>		<i>Pulmonary.</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary.</i>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1.....	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
1-5.....	2	2	8	6	3	—	3	1
5-10.....	3	—	19	9	—	—	1	—
10-15.....	4	5	7	9	1	2	—	—
15-20.....	14	7	1	2	7	4	1	1
20-25.....	9	5	5	3	3	1	—	2
25-35.....	22	17	6	4	16	11	3	1
35-45.....	25	17	2	—	15	8	—	1
45-55.....	21	9	3	2	10	6	—	—
55-65.....	17	4	—	1	11	4	1	—
65 and upwards..	4	—	1	1	3	—	—	1
Totals.....	121	67	53	37	69	36	9	7

Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Of the 168 cases notified, 83 occurred between the ages of 20 and 45 years, 49 were over 45 years of age, 21 were between the ages of 15 and 20, and 15 cases were under 15 years of age. There were 105 deaths during the year from Tuberculosis of the Lungs as compared with 89 in 1928. Of these 105 fatal cases, 69 were males and 36 females. The death-rate was .82 per 1,000 of the population ; the rate for 1928 was .70.

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

88 cases of Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified during the year, 53 in males and 35 in females.

The number of deaths from Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis was 16 as compared with 18 in 1928. The death-rate was therefore .13 per 1,000 of the population in 1929, .14 in 1928, .22 in 1927, .18 in 1926, and .20 in 1925.

5 of the fatal cases were amongst children under 15 years of age.

Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1924.

The number of cases of Tuberculosis remaining on the Register of Notifications on 31st December, 1929, was :—

Pulmonary	{	Males	445
		Females	365
Non-Pulmonary	{	Males	254
		Females	267

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

No action was taken during 1929 under these Regulations which relate to tuberculous employees in the Milk Trade.

Public Health Act, 1925, Section 62.

No action was taken during 1929 under this Section of the Public Health Act, 1925, which relates to the compulsory removal of cases to Hospital.

SUPPLEMENTAL RETURN.

New cases of Tuberculosis coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health or Chief (Administrative) Tuberculosis Officer during the period from the 30th December 1928, to the 28th December, 1929, otherwise than by notification on Form A or Form B under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1912.

Age Periods.	0 to 1	1 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 and up-wards.	Total Cases.
Pulmonary Males.....	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	4	-	-	9
" Females.....	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	1	-	-	11
Non-Pulmonary Males..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
" Females..	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	2

SOURCE OF INFORMATION.	No. of Cases.	
	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.
Death Returns { from local Registrars.....	7	2
{ transferable deaths from Registrar-General..	4	-
" Transfers " from other areas (other than transferable deaths)	9	-
Forms C and D.....	-	-
Other Sources.....	-	-

Treatment of Tuberculosis.

Each case notified as Tuberculosis is visited by one of your Health Visitors who inquires into the home conditions of the case and ascertains what treatment the patient's doctor has recommended. During the year 1,309 visits were thus paid to the homes of cases of Tuberculosis. Facilities for the examination and supervision of cases have been provided by your Health Committee at the Tuberculosis Dispensary, Great Egerton Street, Stockport. Cases are sent by their own Doctors to the Dispensary for purposes of consultation, observation, classification and supervision. The Dispensary thus fulfils the functions of a Central Information Bureau and of a Central Clearing House for tuberculosis cases in the area.

I am indebted to Dr. E. Ratner, Assistant Medical Officer of Health, and to the Dispensary Staff, for the following information with regard to the work at the Tuberculosis Dispensary during 1929 :—

STOCKPORT TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY.

Number of Patients.

The total number of patients attending the Dispensary during the year was 856 and the total of attendances made was 3,618. Owing to an increase in the number of available beds at Sanatoria, etc., it has been found possible, practically, to dispense with the list of cases awaiting admission to such Institutions, but the need for additional accommodation for patients suffering from non-pulmonary tuberculosis has been felt from time to time during the year.

358 new patients were dealt with during the year. 155 of these cases were children under 15 years of age, 187 were civilians and 16 were discharged soldiers.

<i>Nature of Disease.</i>	<i>Discharged</i>				<i>Total.</i>
	<i>Soldiers.</i>	<i>Civilians.</i>			
Pulmonary Tuberculosis.....	14	..	66	..	80
Bronchitis, &c.....	2	..	119	..	121
Tuberculosis of Bones, Joints, and Skin.....	—	..	11	..	11
Tubercular Glands and Abdomen..	—	..	19	..	19
Other Diseases and Contacts.....	—	..	127	..	127
	—		—		—
Totals.....	16	..	342	..	358
	—		—		—

Bacteriological Examinations.

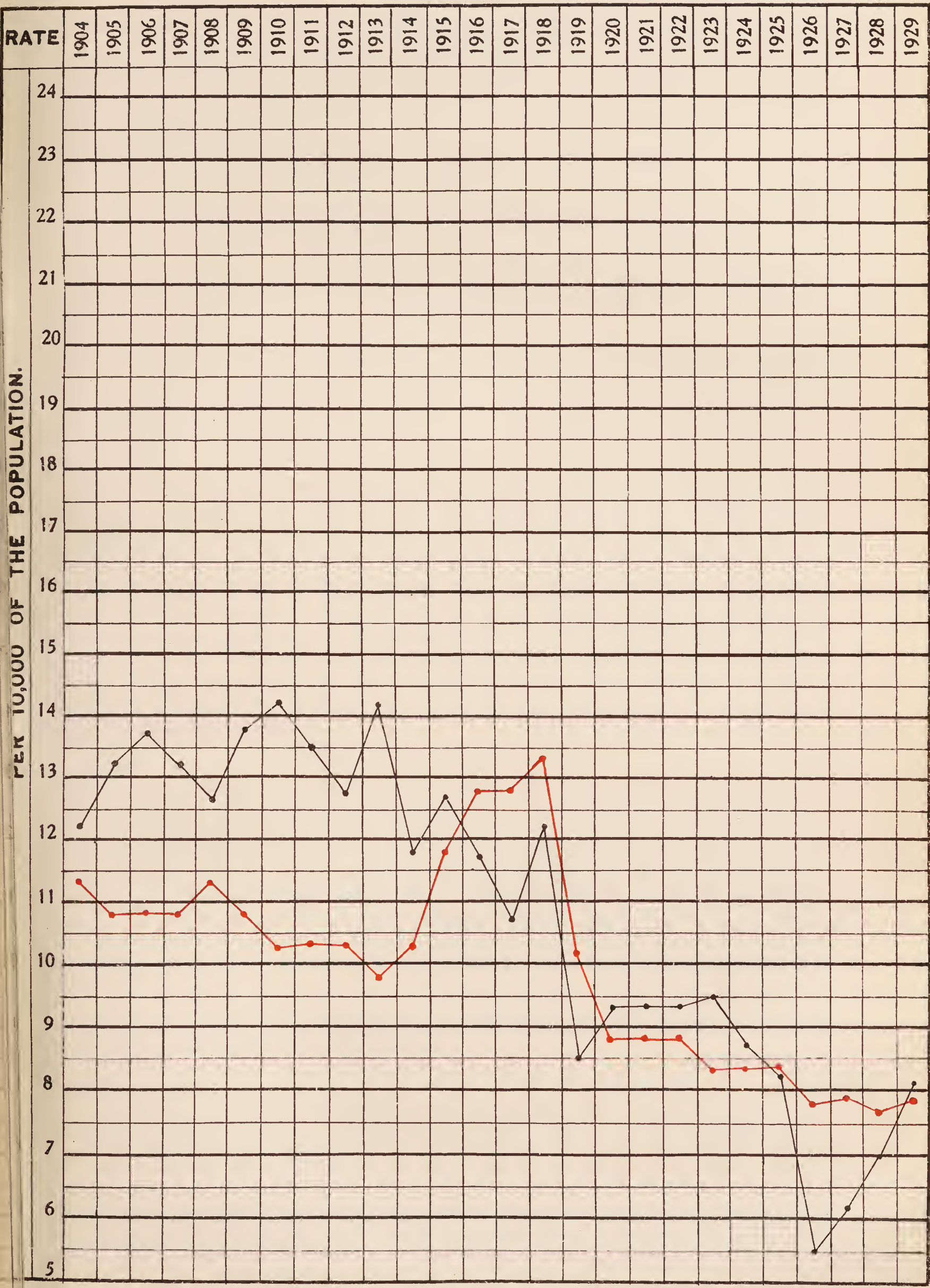
Specimens of Sputa were examined for Tubercle Bacilli at the Dispensary by Dr. Richmond, and reports of the results of these examinations were sent to the doctors concerned.

During the year, 490 specimens were thus examined and of these 101 were positive and 389 were negative.

Hospital, Sanatoria, &c.

Institutional provision for cases of Tuberculosis in Stockport patients is referred to on page 26 of this Report.

The following Chart shows the Death Rates from Pulmonary Tuberculosis per 10,000 of the Population In England and Wales, and Stockport, (1904-1929)



England and Wales in Red.

Stockport in Black

Whitehill Hospital has been in use for Tuberculosis cases throughout the year.

The following table sets forth the number of cases of Tuberculosis dealt with at Whitehill Hospital :—

Number of patients in Hospital on December 31st, 1928.....	18
„ „ admitted during 1929.....	70
„ „ discharged during 1929.....	63
„ „ died during 1929.....	12
„ „ remaining in Hospital on December 31st, 1929	13

The routine work of Whitehill Hospital has been ably carried out during the year by all the members of the Staff.

During the year, the Members of your Sanatoria Sub-Committee paid several visits to Whitehill Hospital and expressed themselves as highly satisfied with the arrangements made for the comfort and treatment of the patients.

Co-operation.

Close co-operation is secured between the Tuberculosis Service and the other Medical Services of the Corporation, and also between the Dispensary and the general and special Hospitals in the area. Your Medical Officer of Health is also Chief Tuberculosis Officer. Your Assistant Tuberculosis Officer is also Deputy Medical Officer of Health. Home visiting of cases is carried out by your Health Visitors. Cases are referred to the Tuberculosis Dispensary by the Assistant School Medical Officers, by the Medical Practitioners in the town, and by the authorities of the other Hospitals in the neighbourhood. The services of your Assistant Tuberculosis Officer are available for purposes of consultation with his medical colleagues.

Contacts.

Your Health Visitors, when visiting the homes of patients suffering from Tuberculosis, make enquiries as to the number of “ contacts ” in the family, their ages and their general state of health. Facilities are offered whereby contacts can attend at the Dispensary for examination by the Clinical Tuberculosis Officer and, when necessary, these cases are kept under observation at the Dispensary. Patients and their families are beginning to realise the importance of this examination and it is hoped that there will be an increasing number who will take advantage of the facilities provided for them.

During the year 122 contacts were examined among whom 2 definite cases of tuberculosis were discovered.

X-Rays.

Arrangements have been made with the Board of Management of the Stockport Infirmary for X-Rays examinations to be made of cases sent by your Tuberculosis Officers at a cost of 10/6 per examination.

Skiagrams are of great value to your Tuberculosis Officers in the diagnosis of early and doubtful cases of Tuberculosis, and also in assessing the results of treatment at Sanatoria, &c. It is essential that a definite diagnosis be

made as early as possible in every case and your Sanatoria Sub-Committee has approved the more extensive use of X-Rays examinations for this purpose.

Dental Treatment.

Arrangements have been made by your Council with the Authorities of the Meathop Sanatorium for Dental Treatment to be available for Stockport patients in that Institution. Financial assistance has been given by your Health Committee for Dental Treatment of Stockport patients when recommended by your Tuberculosis Officers.

Extra Nourishment.

Arrangements are made for the supply of extra nourishment, e.g., Milk, Cod Liver Oil Emulsion, Malt and Oil, etc., to necessitous cases.

After-Care.

No special organisation exists locally for finding employment for patients nor are any arrangements in force for the supply and supervision of shelters at the homes of patients.

Orthopaedic Treatment.

The arrangements made in the previous year whereby cases of crippling due to Tuberculosis are treated at the Orthopaedic Department of the Stockport Infirmary have been continued during 1929.

The following is a summary of the work of this Department during 1929 :—

31	Cases treated.
107	Out-patient attendances made.
97	{ Attendances for Massage.
	{ Attendances for medical exercises.
35	In-patient days.
11	X-Ray examinations.
609	Ultra Violet Light Treatment.

Cases recommended by your Tuberculosis Officers are dealt with at the Stockport Infirmary by Mr. E. S. Brentnall, Hon. Orthopaedic Surgeon, and the administrative arrangements have been made by Mr. Pearce, Secretary-Superintendent of the Infirmary.

In connection with the scheme valuable financial assistance has been given by the Trustees of the late Miss Maria Leigh in defraying the whole or part of the cost of surgical appliances in necessitous cases.

Patients requiring prolonged Hospital treatment have been sent to the Shropshire Orthopaedic Hospital at Oswestry, when beds have been available, and in this connection I have to thank the Trustees of the George Fearn Trust for financial assistance in certain cases which have been referred to them.

Ultra Violet Light Treatment.

Arrangements have been made under the Orthopaedic Scheme at Stockport Infirmary for cases recommended by your Tuberculosis Officers to receive this special form of treatment at a charge of 1/6 per treatment.

The treatment is under the supervision of a Medical Officer with special experience in this work—a necessary precaution in view of the weakly and debilitated condition of some of the patients recommended from the Tuberculosis Dispensary.

Staff.

During the year the clinical work of the Tuberculosis Department has been carried out by Dr. H. Richmond, who left the service of the Corporation on 6th December, 1929, to take up a similar appointment at Wigan. Dr. E. Ratner, of Manchester, has been appointed to succeed Dr. Richmond and will commence duties in Stockport early in the new year.

TABLE I.

Annual Return showing the work of the Dispensary during the year 1929.

DIAGNOSIS.	PULMONARY.				NON-PULMONARY				TOTAL.			
	Adults.		Children		Adults.		Children		Adults.		Children	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
A.—NEW CASES examined during the year (excluding contacts):—												
(a) Definitely tuberculous..	51	20	6	3	5	3	12	8	56	23	18	11
(b) Doubtfully tuberculous.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	3	5
(c) Non-tuberculous.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	33	28	27	27
B.—CONTACTS examined during the year:—												
(a) Definitely tuberculous..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
(b) Doubtfully tuberculous..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Non-tuberculous.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	26	32	29	33
C.—CASES written off the Dispensary Register as												
(a) Cured.....	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—
(b) Diagnosis not confirmed or non-tuberculous (including cancellation of cases notified in error).....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	59	60	56	60
D.—NUMBER OF PERSONS on Dispensary Register on December 31st:—												
(a) Diagnosis completed....	189	135	16	13	27	36	54	48	216	171	70	61
(b) Diagnosis not completed	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	3	2	—

1. Number of Persons on Dispensary Register on January 1st	487
2. Number of patients transferred from other areas and of "lost sight of" cases returned.....	11
3. Number of patients transferred to other areas and cases "lost sight of"...	26
4. Died during the year.....	61
5. Number of observation cases under A (b) and B (b) above in which period of observation exceeded 2 months.....	9
6. Number of attendances at the Dispensary (including Contacts).....	3618
7. Number of attendances of Non-pulmonary cases at Orthopaedic Out-stations for treatment or supervision.....	824
8. Number of attendances, at General Hospitals or other Institutions approved for the purpose, of patients for	
(a) "Light" treatment.....	646
(b) Other special forms of treatment.....	141
9. Number of patients to whom Dental Treatment was given, at or in connection with the Dispensary.....	4
10. Number of consultations with Medical Practitioners :—	
(a) At Homes of Applicants.....	13
(b) Otherwise.....	33
11. Number of other visits by Tuberculosis Officers to Homes.....	10
12. Number of visits by Nurses or Health Visitors to Homes for Dispensary purposes.....	1309
13. Number of	
(a) Specimens of sputum, etc., examined.....	*400
(*Excluding 90 specimens examined in respect of other cases.)	
(b) X-Ray examinations made in connection with Dispensary work..	127
14. Number of Insured Persons on Dispensary Register on the 31st December	372
15. Number of Insured Persons under Domiciliary Treatment on the 31st December.....	42
16. Number of reports received during the year in respect of Insured Persons :—	
(a) Form G.P. 17.....	1
(b) Form G.P. 36.....	69

TABLE II.—RESIDENTIAL INSTITUTIONS.

(A) Average Number of Beds available for Patients during the year 1929.

	<i>Observa- tion.</i>	<i>Pulmonary Tuberculosis.</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.</i>		<i>Total.</i>
		<i>"Sana- torium" Beds.</i>	<i>'Hospital' Beds.</i>	<i>Disease of Bones and Joints.</i>	<i>Other Con- ditions.</i>	
Adult Males.....	—	31	9	—	—	40
Adult Females.....	—	15	17	2	—	34
Children under 15....	—	—	—	3	—	3
Total.....	—	46	26	5	—	77

(B) Annual Return showing the extent of Residential Treatment during the year 1929.

		<i>In Institu- tions on Jan. 1.</i>	<i>Admitted during the year.</i>	<i>Dis- charged during the year.</i>	<i>Died in the Institu- tions.</i>	<i>In Institu- tions on Dec. 31.</i>
Number of Patients	Adults M	26	98	80	14	30
	Adults F	28	46	48	6	20
	Children M	2	7	7	—	2
	Children F	5	6	9	—	2
Number of Observation Cases	Adults M	—	2	2	—	—
	Adults F	—	2	1	—	1
	Children M	—	1	1	—	—
	Children F	1	1	2	—	—
Total.....		62	163	150	20	55

TABLE III.

Annual Return showing the immediate results of treatment of patients and of observation of doubtful cases discharged from Residential Institutions during the year 1929.

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.																
Classification on admission to the Institution	Condition at time of discharge.	Duration of Residential Treatment in the Institution.														
		Under 3 months.			3-6 months.			6-12 months.			More than 12 months			Total		
		M	F	Ch.	M	F	Ch.	M	F	Ch.	M	F	Ch.			
Class T.B. minus	Quiescent.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
	Improved.....	7	9	4	6	—	5	2	1	—	1	—	—	35		
	No material improvement.	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	3		
	Died in Institution.....	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2		
Class T.B. Plus Group 1	Quiescent.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
	Improved.....	5	3	—	1	—	—	2	1	1	—	—	—	13		
	No material improvement.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1		
	Died in Institution.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Class T.B. Plus Group 2	Quiescent.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
	Improved.....	12	3	—	12	9	—	5	6	—	3	2	—	52		
	No material improvement.	4	2	—	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12		
	Died in Institution.....	5	4	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12		
Class T.B. Plus Group 3	Quiescent.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
	Improved.....	—	—	—	2	—	—	3	1	—	1	1	—	8		
	No material improvement.	3	1	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	1	1	—	10		
	Died in Institution.....	5	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	6		
Bones & Joints	Quiescent or Arrested....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
	Improved.....	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	7		
	No material improvement.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
	Died in Institution.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Abdominal	Quiescent or Arrested....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
	Improved.....	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2		
	No material improvement.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
	Died in Institution.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Other Organs	Quiescent or Arrested....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
	Improved.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
	No material improvement.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
	Died in Institution.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Peripheral Glands	Quiescent or Arrested....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
	Improved.....	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1		
	No material improvement.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
	Died in Institution.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.	Bones & Joints	Quiescent or Arrested....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
		Improved.....	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
		No material improvement.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
		Died in Institution.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
	Abdominal	Quiescent or Arrested....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
		Improved.....	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2		
		No material improvement.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
		Died in Institution.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
	Other Organs	Quiescent or Arrested....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
		Improved.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
		No material improvement.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
		Died in Institution.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
	Peripheral Glands	Quiescent or Arrested....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
		Improved.....	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1		
		No material improvement.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
		Died in Institution.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Observation for purposes of diagnosis			Under 1 week.			1-2 weeks.			2-4 weeks.			More than 4 weeks.			Total	
			M	F	Ch.	M	F	Ch.	M	F	Ch.	M	F	Ch.		
			—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		—
			—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	3		
			—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—		

(a) **Condition at the time of the last record made during the year to which the Return relates.**
of the Dispensary at the end of 1929, arranged according to the years in which the patient first came under Public Medical Treatment for pulmonary tuberculosis and their classification as shown on Form A

Condition at the time of the last record made during the year to which the Return relates.		Previous to 1926.					1926					1927					1928					1929.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																												
		Class T.B. minus.		Class T.B. plus			Class T.B. minus.	Class T.B. plus				Class T.B. minus	Class T.B. plus				Class T.B. minus.	Class T.B. plus				Class T.B. minus.	Class T.B. plus.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																											
		Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Total	Group 1		Group 2	Group 3	Total	Group 1		Group 2	Group 3	Total	Group 1		Group 2	Group 3	Total	Group 1		Group 2	Group 3	Total																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																									
Discharged as cured.	Adults	M.	2</

(b) NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.—Annual Return showing in summary form the condition of all Patients whose case records are in the possession of the Dispensary at the end of 1929, arranged according to the years in which the patient first came under Public Medical Treatment, and their classification as shown on Form A.

Condition at the time of the last record made during the year to which the Return relates.		Previous to 1926.						1926						1927						1928						1929					
		Bones and Joints		Abdominal		Other Organs		Peripheral Glands		Total		Bones and Joints		Abdominal		Other Organs		Peripheral Glands		Total		Bones and Joints		Abdominal		Other Organs		Peripheral Glands		Total	
		Adults	Chil- dren	Adults	Chil- dren	Adults	Chil- dren	Adults	Chil- dren	Adults	Chil- dren	Adults	Chil- dren	Adults	Chil- dren	Adults	Chil- dren	Adults	Chil- dren	Adults	Chil- dren	Adults	Chil- dren	Adults	Chil- dren	Adults	Chil- dren	Adults	Chil- dren	Adults	Chil- dren
Discharged as cured.	M.	1		..		3		1		5		..		..		..		..		..		..		..		..		..		..
	F.	..		3		3		1		7		..		..		..		..		..		..		..		..		..		..
	M.	..		3		1		1		5		..		..		..		..		..		..		..		..		..		..
	F.	..		..		1		..		1		..		..		..		..		..		..		..		..		..		..
Disease arrested.	M.	..		1		..		3		4		..		..		..		..		2		..		..		..		..		..
	F.	1		..		1		..		2		1		..		..		..		1		..		..		..		..		..
	M.	1		..		1		5		7		..		1		1		6		8		1		1		..		1		3	
	F.	2		1		..		1		4		1		1		..		1		3		..		..		..		2		2	
Disease not arrested.	M.	..		..		3		..		3		..		..		..		..		..		2		..		..		1		2	
	F.	..		1		9		1		11		..		..		..		..		..		..		1		..		1		4	
	M.	2		3		2		4		11		..		3		..		1		4		3		3		..		1		7	
	F.	4		5		3		3		15		..		..		..		4		4		3		..		..		1		4	
TRANSFERRED TO PULMONARY.		..		..		..		1		1		..		..		..		..		..		..		..		..		..		..
CONDITION NOT ASCERTAINED		..		3		2		..		5		..		1		..		1		2		1		2		..		1		4	
LOST SIGHT OF OR OTHERWISE RE- MOVED FROM DISPENSARY REGISTER.		3		6		13		7		29		2		2		..		5		9		..		..		2		1		3	
DEAD.	M.	..		1		1		..		2		1		..		..		..		1		1		..		1		..		1	
	F.	..		..		..		..		..		..		..		..		..		..		..		..		..		..		..
	M.	1		1		..		..		2		..		..		..		..		..		..		1		..		..		..
	F.	..		..		..		..		..		..		..		..		..		..		..		..		..		..		..
Totals ..		15	..	28	43	28	114	5	8	1	18	33	..	8	..	1	..	1	..	33	..	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

ALIVE.

PART IV.
Venereal Diseases.

Venereal Diseases.

The scheme for the treatment of cases of Venereal Diseases in Stockport is under the control of a Sub-Committee of the Health Committee. Your Medical Officer of Health is Administrative Venereal Diseases Medical Officer and Dr. W. J. S. Reid is Clinical Venereal Diseases Medical Officer, in full charge of the clinical work at all the Clinics.

In the administrative and clinical work at the Venereal Diseases Treatment Centre we have had the assistance of Dr. H. Richmond and Dr. Jean M. Mackintosh.

The services of Dr. Richmond were available at the clinics for men on Tuesday evenings and Friday mornings, and Dr. Mackintosh has attended at the clinic for female patients on Thursdays. The arrangements above referred to were adopted during the year by your Health Committee on the recommendation of your Medical Officer of Health after consultation with Dr. Reid, and with the approval of the Minister of Health. It is anticipated that closer co-operation will be secured between the work of the Ante-Natal Clinics and the Women's Venereal Diseases Clinic by having the services of Dr. Mackintosh available at both institutions, and it is hoped that cases of venereal diseases in women, especially cases of gonorrhoea, will seek and secure treatment in the early stages of the disease.

The number of Clinics has been reduced from four weekly to three as from 1st March, 1928. So far it has not been possible to dispense with the Clinic for males which is held on Friday mornings. Several patients in attendance at that time would be unable to come on Tuesday evenings, and the numbers in regular attendance at the Tuesday evening Clinic have become so large that much inconvenience would be caused if only one Clinic were available for male patients.

There are no signs of any marked diminution in the number of patients seeking treatment at the Clinics, but a highly satisfactory feature of the work is the increasing number of patients who persevere with treatment and attend at the Clinics regularly until discharged by Dr. Reid.

As in previous years, Nurse Smith has assisted at the Clinic for females, and Mr. Lees, Male Orderly, has been in attendance at the Clinics for males.

Borough Dispensary.

Three Clinics are held weekly as follows :—

MALES :	Tuesday Evenings :	5-30 p.m. to 7-30 p.m.
	Friday Mornings :	10-30 a.m. to 12-30 p.m.
FEMALES :	Thursday Evenings	4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

In addition to the above Clinics the Centre is open for the Irrigation of cases of Gonorrhoea at the following times :—

MALES :	Wednesday	5-30 to 7-30 p.m.
	Saturday	
FEMALES :	By arrangement.	

479 persons, of whom 297 were males and 182 females, attended for treatment during the year, making a total number of attendances of 6681.

In addition to the above, 83 new Stockport patients attended approved Treatment Centres in other towns, making a total number of attendances of 987.

During the year 500 specimens of blood in respect of Stockport patients were examined for the Wassermann Reaction at the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester, and elsewhere.

115 examinations for the detection of Gonococci were made at the Borough Dispensary ; and 45 for the detection of Gonococci, and 4 for the detection of Spirochetes, in respect of Stockport patients, were carried out at other Centres.

The following tables, compiled from Form V.D. (R) of the Ministry of Health, give the details of the treatment at the various Treatment Centres:—

TABLE OF INSTITUTIONAL TREATMENT AT VARIOUS TREATMENT CENTRES.

	<i>Borough Dispensary Stockport.</i>	<i>Stockport Patients Treated at Manchester and Salford Centres.</i>
	<i>Number.</i>	<i>Number.</i>
(A) OUT-PATIENT CLINIC :		
Attendances.....	6681	987
(B) IN-PATIENT TREATMENT :		
Number of days.....	—	43
(C) SALVARSAN SUBSTITUTES :		
Doses.....	1099	143
(D) EXAMINATION OF PATHOLOGICAL MATERIAL :		
For detection of Spirochetes.....	—	4
,, Gonococci.....	115	45
,, Wassermann Reaction.....	*420	80

* Including 204 specimens sent in by Private Practitioners and Institutions.

VENEREAL DISEASE—TREATMENT.

	<i>Borough Dispensary Stockport.</i>	<i>Stockport Patients Treated at Manchester & Salford Centres</i>
A. Number of persons dealt with during the year at or in connection with the Out-Patient Clinic for the first time and found to be suffering from Syphilis.	89	26
Soft Chancre.....	—	1
Gonorrhœa.....	73	25
Conditions other than Venereal.....	69	31
Total.....	231	83
B. Number of attendances at the Out-Patient Clinic.....	6681	987
C. Aggregate number of "In-Patient" days.....	—	43
D Number of doses of Salvarsan substitutes given in the—		
(1) Out-Patient Clinic.....	1099	142
(2) In-Patient Department.....	—	1

The arrangements for the treatment of cases of these diseases appear to be adequate and patients continue to avail themselves of the facilities offered. The co-operation of the members of the Medical Profession in the town is sought by your Staff and assistance in the diagnosis and treatment of cases referred to your Medical Officers is readily given to the Practitioners concerned.

Apart from the Medical Staffs at the Stockport Infirmary and the Poor Law Infirmary there are five Medical Practitioners in the town qualified to receive free supplies of Arsenobenzol Compounds. During the year 1929 one case was treated by a Practitioner under this arrangement.

No action was taken during 1929 under the Venereal Diseases Act, 1917.

Propaganda.

Your Council contributes annually to the British Social Hygiene Council, which is the Central Organisation for the many and varied activities in connection with propaganda on the subject of Venereal Disease. Publicity has been given locally in the Press and by correspondence as to the times, etc., of the Clinics,

PART V.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

The year 1929 has witnessed a considerable expansion in the work of the Maternity and Child Welfare Department. The Scheme in operation in Stockport for the supervision of the welfare of mothers and babies, although still incomplete, is now a fairly comprehensive one and is being developed on sound lines. Your Maternity and Child Welfare Committee is justifiably proud of the development of its activities and is to be congratulated upon the success attending its efforts for the welfare of the mothers and babies of the town.

The outstanding feature of this work was the opening in January, 1929, of new Centres at the Edgeley Wesleyan Church Schools and at the Wycliffe Congregational Church Schools, to serve the Edgeley and Heaton Norris districts respectively. These two new Centres proved immediately successful, and at Edgeley so great has been the demand that it has been found necessary to recommend that an additional session for infants be commenced early in 1930.

At the Infant Welfare Centres the number of new cases attending during 1929 was 1,585, as compared with 1,090 in 1928. A notable expansion in the work of the Ante-natal Clinics also falls to be recorded. The midwives practising in the town are to be congratulated upon the splendid way in which they have availed themselves of the facilities offered at the Ante-natal Clinics. The percentage of midwives' cases attending the Ante-natal Clinics in 1929 was 60, as compared with 37 in 1928. In securing the co-operation and assistance of the midwives Dr. Jean Mackintosh, by her zeal and enthusiasm, has played an important part, and your Health Visitors have rendered valuable assistance in the work of preventing Maternal Morbidity and lessening Maternal Mortality.

At the various Ante-natal Clinics and Child Welfare Centres your Maternity and Child Welfare Committee has had the able assistance of the Stockport Maternity and Child Welfare Voluntary Committee. During the year the Voluntary Committee became re-constituted and a re-organisation of its personnel and of its activities took place. The services of a number of willing and enthusiastic lady-helpers have been secured and the Voluntary Committee has prepared plans for a considerable expansion of its work during 1930. The services rendered by the ladies in the cause of Child Welfare are referred to in detail later in this Report, but I would take this opportunity of thanking them for their valuable assistance to the Staff of the Department, and for their devotion to the interests of the mothers and babies.

In November, 1929, Dr. E. Creaser, one of the Medical Inspectors of the Ministry of Health, visited Stockport and inspected the Maternity and Child Welfare Department and the Mile End Maternity Hospital. A visit of inspection to two of the Welfare Centres was also paid by Miss Montagnan of the Ministry of Health.

Notification of Births.

Under the Notification of Births Acts, 1907 and 1915, I have received 1,940 notifications in respect of 1,829 births. In only 1.6 per cent. of the total births was there failure to notify.

The live and still-births were notified as follows :—

By Midwives.....	1422
„ Medical Practitioners.....	352
„ Other Persons.....	136
Number of cases not notified within 36 hours.....	30
Total.....	1940

The total number of births registered during the same period with the District Registrars under the Births, etc., Registration Act, 1836, was 1,700 live births and 96 still births. Under the Registration Act, 1836, a period of six weeks is allowed for registration to be made, whereas under the Notification of Births Acts births must be notified to the Medical Officer of Health within 36 hours of their occurrence.

Infantile Mortality.

The Infantile Mortality Rate is calculated upon the number of deaths of infants under one year of age per thousand registered births. The rate for 1929 is 91.18 per thousand births. This is the highest rate recorded since 1925, and the rate for England and Wales shews a corresponding increase to 74. The following short comparative table may prove of interest :—

	1929	1928	1927	1926	1925
Stockport.....	91.18	77.18	77.4	81.9	97.2
107 Great Towns.....	79	70	71	*73	*79
England and Wales.....	74	65	69	70	75

(* 105 Towns)

The Nett Births and Nett Infantile Deaths with reference to sex, legitimacy and illegitimacy are given below :—

		M.	F.	Total.
Nett Births in the year	{ Legitimate	801	821	1622
	{ Illegitimate	37	41	78
				1700
		M.	F.	Total.
Nett Deaths in the year of	{ Legitimate	74	68	142
	{ Illegitimate	6	7	13
				155

Details of the Infantile Deaths according to age and cause are given in the Table shewn on page 87.

The cold inclement weather experienced in the early part of 1929 told heavily on the infant population, with the result that 89 of the total of 155 deaths of infants occurred during the first quarter of the year. In the following table the main causes of Infantile Deaths are grouped, viz. :—

Congenital malformations, prematurity, atrophy, debility, and marasmus.....	73
Diarrhoea, enteritis, and convulsions.....	18
Respiratory diseases.....	44

The number of deaths from prematurity, etc., and from Respiratory Diseases shows an increase over the corresponding number for 1928. Infantile Deaths are most liable to occur in the very early period of life. In Stockport we find that more than half of the deaths of infants occur under four weeks of age, and one-third of the deaths under one week of age. The fall in the Infantile Mortality Rate recorded over a period of years, both locally and nationally, has depended almost entirely on the decrease in the death-rate of infants from one month to twelve months of age. The Death-rate of infants under four weeks of age shews little or no reduction, and we must therefore pay still greater attention to the care of the Expectant Mother without relaxing our watch over the infant after birth.

Still-births.

Still-births are included in the Weekly Returns furnished by the District Registrars to the Medical Officer of Health. 96 Still-births were registered in the Borough during 1929, while 93 Still-births were notified under the Notification of Births Act. Of the 96 Still-births registered, 92 were legitimate and 4 were illegitimate.

The causes of still-birth were as follow :—

Illness of Mother.....	12
Mal-development of child.....	4
Prolonged labour, instrumental delivery.....	18
Mal-presentation.....	22
Placenta praevia, ante-partum haemorrhage.....	9
Albuminuria, Eclampsia.....	6
Cause unknown.....	25
	—
Total.....	96

Maternal Mortality.

The number of women who died in, or in consequence of, child-birth during 1929 was 11. The Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births was therefore 6.47.

The causes of death were as follow :—

Puerperal Fever.....	3
Ante-partum Haemorrhage.....	1
Post-partum Haemorrhage.....	1
Eclampsia and toxæmia of pregnancy.....	3
Other Causes	3
	—
Total.....	11

The rate of Maternal Mortality throughout the country has remained at a constantly high level in spite of the various measures which have been undertaken with a view to its reduction. Its rate has not participated in the fall in the Infantile Mortality rate which has been so marked a feature during the past twenty years. This high rate of Maternal Mortality is a serious national question and is receiving the special attention of the Ministry of Health and of local authorities.

Confidential reports upon all cases of deaths of women in, or in consequence of, still-births are sent to the Maternal Mortality Committee, which was appointed in 1928 by the Minister of Health to investigate this question.

TABLE IV.

INFANT MORTALITY.

1929. Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	4 weeks and under 8 months.	3 months and under 6 months.	6 months and under 9 months.	9 months and under 12 months.	Total Deaths under 1 year.
All causes	Certified.....	53	10	5	10	78	20	20	21	13	152
	Uncertified....	2	..	..	..	2	1	..	..	..	3
{	Smallpox.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Chickenpox.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Measles.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Scarlet Fever.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{	Whooping Cough.....	..	..	..	1	1	3	1	3	1	9
	Diphtheria and Croup..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Erysipelas.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Phthisis.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{	Tuberculous Meningitis.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Abdominal Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Other Tuberculous diseases.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
	Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>).....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{	Convulsions.....	..	1	1	..	2	3	2	2	1	10
	Laryngitis.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Bronchitis.....	2	2	..	1	5	1	3	3	2	14
	Pneumonia (all forms).	..	..	..	1	1	3	5	8	4	21
{	Diarrhoea.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
	Enteritis.....	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	1	..	4
	Gastritis.....	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	1	..	3
	Syphilis.....	1	..	..	1	2	1	..	..	..	3
{	Rickets.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Suffocation, overlying..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Injury at birth.....	7	..	..	..	7	..	..	..	..	7
	Atelectasis.....	5	..	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	5
{	Congenital Malformations.....	7	3	1	..	11	..	3	..	2	16
	Premature Birth.....	25	1	2	2	30	3	..	..	..	33
	Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus.....	8	1	1	4	14	3	..	..	..	17
	Other causes.....	..	1	..	..	1	1	4	2	3	11
Totals.....		55	10	5	10	80	21	20	21	13	155

Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia.

Under the Public Health (Notification of Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia) Regulations, 1926, and 1928, I have received 33 notifications of Puerperal Pyrexia and 5 of Puerperal Fever, referring to 32 cases of Puerperal Pyrexia and 4 cases of Puerperal Fever.

In all four cases of Puerperal Fever the patients had been confined in their own homes but were subsequently removed to Hospital for treatment. One of the cases proved fatal. Two other cases are included in the Registrar-General's return of Maternal Deaths as due to Puerperal Sepsis. One of these cases occurred in a Hospital outside Stockport and was not notified to me, while the remaining case occurred in an Institution in Stockport and had been notified as a case of Puerperal Pyrexia.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

Number of cases delivered and treated in	}	Number of fatal cases 0.
Hospital 17		

Number of cases delivered at home and	}	do.	do.	1.
treated in Hospital 4				

Number of cases delivered at home and	}	do.	do.	0.
treated at home 11				

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Under the Public Health (Ophthalmia Neonatorum) Amendment Regulations, 1928, I have received 26 notifications of cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum during 1929. A similar number was notified during the previous year. 22 of these cases were dealt with in their own homes and were visited and treated by the District Nurses from the Barnsley Home. Of the remaining four cases, three were born in Hospital and received treatment there, and one case attended the Stockport Infirmary for treatment as an out-patient.

The following table gives particulars of the cases notified during the year :—

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM, 1929.

<i>Notified.</i>	<i>Cases</i>		<i>Vision un- impaired.</i>	<i>Vision im- paired.</i>	<i>Total Blind- ness.</i>	<i>Deaths.</i>
	<i>Treated.</i>					
	<i>At Home.</i>	<i>In Hospital.</i>				
26	22	4	26	—	—	—

Pemphigus Neonatorum.

Although this disease was not compulsorily notifiable in the County Borough at any time during 1929, information as to the occurrence of 25 cases was given to your Medical Officer of Health by midwives and doctors during the year. The cases were mostly of mild type, occurred sporadically throughout the town and showed no definite seasonal incidence.

	<i>Cases.</i>
January.....	8
February.....	3
March.....	—
April.....	4
May.....	—
June.....	1
July.....	1
August.....	1
September.....	—
October.....	3
November.....	3
December.....	1
	—
Total.....	25
	—

The incidence of this disease shows a marked reduction from that of 1928, in which year there were 43 cases.

The cases in 1929 occurred in the practice of 10 midwives, who showed promptitude in calling in medical assistance.

Full particulars of the means adopted in dealing with cases of this disease were given in the Report for 1928.

There were no deaths from Pemphigus Neonatorum in 1929.

The Work of the Health Visitors.

Your Council employs eight Health Visitors who have carried out in 1929 a very heavy programme of work. Three of your Health Visitors have obtained the new Health Visitor's Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute. Nurse Drew obtained leave of absence for special study in the early part of the year and her work was undertaken and carried out in a highly satisfactory manner by Nurse Sparrow. In October, 1929, Nurse Clayton was appointed to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Nurse Morley in 1928. During the interval the services of Nurse Surrell were secured. Your Maternity and Child Welfare Committee experienced considerable difficulty in filling the post owing to the shortage of suitable properly-qualified applicants, and the low rate of remuneration compared with the scale in operation in adjoining towns.

The duties of a Health Visitor continue to increase in variety and importance, and it is essential that a high standard of training should be required from those ladies who choose this particular branch of the Nursing Profession.

The Health Visitors have visited the homes of all babies upon receipt of the notification of birth. In this way the Health Visitor is able by her advice and help, especially to the young mother, to guide the baby's upbringing on sound scientific lines at the earliest possible moment.

In 1929, 9,461 visits were paid to infants under twelve months old. Of these, 1,728 were first visits to births and 7,733 were re-visits.

In addition 556 visits were paid to expectant mothers during the year, 240 being first visits and 316 re-visits. Expectant mothers in attendance at the Ante-natal Clinics were visited at home by the Health Visitors in the large majority of cases. In this way the Health Visitor was able to emphasise and repeat the advice already given at the Clinic.

During the year 5,176 visits were paid to toddlers, i.e., children between the ages of one and five years. The importance of this branch of the work of the Health Visitors cannot be over-estimated. The general experience of authorities dealing with Maternity and Child Welfare problems is that babies up to approximately eighteen months of age are well supervised at the Child Welfare Centres, but that from eighteen months to five years of age, i.e., the pre-school period, the needs of the toddler are apt to be neglected. The importance of securing adequate supervision of the pre-school child becomes apparent when we realise that at the Medical Inspection of the Entrants to our Public Elementary Schools 20 to 25 per cent. of the children are found to be suffering from some defect or other requiring treatment. The attention of all local authorities has been directed to the problem of the supervision of the health of the pre-school child in a circular recently issued jointly by the Minister of Health and the President of the Board of Education. This circular is receiving the careful attention of a Joint Sub-Committee appointed by your Maternity and Child Welfare and Education Committees and special reports have been prepared upon the subject by your Medical Officer of Health and your Secretary of Education. The Joint Sub-Committee has recommended the commencement of special clinics for Toddlers and also the establishment of a Nursery School on open-air lines in one of the congested areas of the town.

The Health Visitors also attend in rotation at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres. During the year 1,310 attendances were made in this connection. 77 Lectures on Infant Hygiene were given by the Health Visitors during the year to the elder girls in attendance at the Public Elementary Schools. These lectures have been a feature of our propaganda in Stockport for many years and many mothers now attending our Child Welfare Centres received their first lessons in Infant Hygiene when they were pupils in our Elementary Schools.

Visits of inspection were also paid in cases of Infantile Deaths ; Still-births ; Minor Infectious Diseases, e.g., Measles, Whooping Cough, etc. ; Tuberculosis ; and female Outworkers. It is noted with satisfaction that although the work at the Centres has considerably increased there has been no diminution in the number of visits paid to the homes by the Health Visitors.

The work of the Health Visitors, including their work under the Tuberculosis Scheme, is summarised thus :—

SUMMARY OF THE WORK OF THE HEALTH VISITORS, 1929.

Total number of houses visited.....	16734
First Visits to Births.....	1728
Re-visits to Births.....	7733
Visits to Outworkers.....	142
School Lectures.....	77
Visits re Deaths.....	200
Visits to Ante-natal Cases.....	556
Visits to Children, 1 to 5 years.....	5176
Attendances at Maternity & Child Welfare Centres	1310
Visits to Tuberculosis Cases and Contacts.....	1564

Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.

In January, 1929, by arrangements with the Church Authorities concerned, two new Centres were opened in the Edgeley Wesleyan and the Wycliffe Congregational Church Schools. At the Wycliffe Centre there is one session weekly for infant consultations and this Centre is proving increasingly popular. At the Edgeley Centre one afternoon per week is devoted to an Ante-natal Clinic and one afternoon weekly to infant consultations. So successful has this Centre been that an additional session weekly for infants will be commenced early in 1930.

The revised Time Table of Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics, as from January, 1930, is as follows :—

TIME TABLE OF CLINICS.

- (1) AT CHURCHGATE HOUSE :—
 - (1) For Mothers .. Thursdays 10-0 a.m. to 12-0 noon.
 - (2) For Infants .. Mondays 2-30 p.m. to 4-30 p.m.
 - (3) Do .. Wednesdays 10-0 a.m. to 12-0 noon.
- (2) AT 125, GREAT PORTWOOD STREET :—
 - (1) For Mothers .. Mondays 2-30 p.m. to 4-30 p.m.
 - (2) For Infants .. Tuesdays 2-30 p.m. to 4-30 p.m.
 - (3) Do. .. Fridays 2-30 p.m. to 4-30 p.m.
- (3) AT REDDISH CENTRE, STANHOPE STREET :—
 - (1) For Infants .. Mondays 10-0 a.m. to 12-0 noon.
 - (2) Do. .. Thursdays 2-30 p.m. to 4-30 p.m.
- (4) AT EDGELEY WESLEYAN SCHOOL :—
 - (1) For Mothers .. Wednesdays 2-30 p.m. to 4-30 p.m.
 - (2) For Infants .. Tuesdays 2-30 p.m. to 4-30 p.m.
 - (3) Do. .. Fridays 10-0 a.m. to 12-0 noon.
- (5) AT WYCLIFFE CONGREGATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL :—
 - (1) For Infants .. Fridays 2-30 p.m. to 4-30 p.m.
- (6) AT MILE END MATERNITY HOSPITAL :—
 - (1) For Mothers .. Tuesdays 10-0 a.m. to 12-0 noon.

Cases recommended by the Medical Officers for massage attend for that purpose by appointment at Churchgate House on Monday and Friday mornings and on Wednesday afternoons. Miss Potts, Masseuse to the Department, has carried out her duties in a highly satisfactory manner.

The medical consultations at the various Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics have been ably conducted by Dr. Jean M. Mackintosh who has taken a keen personal interest in the welfare of the Mothers and Babies. Dr. H. Slater, part-time Assistant in the Department, and Dr. H. Richmond, Senior Assistant Medical Officer of Health, have rendered valuable assistance in the conduct of the Clinics, and your Medical Officer of Health has continued to take a personal interest in the clinical work at one of the Centres.

I am indebted to Dr. Mackintosh, Dr. Slater, and Dr. Richmond, for much valuable assistance in this important work, and especially to Dr. Mackintosh for her pioneer work at the Ante-natal Clinics and for her valuable aid in the preparation of this part of the Report.

Ante-natal Clinics.

These clinics for expectant mothers are held weekly in four centres, viz. :— Portwood, Edgeley, Churchgate, and Mile End Hospital.

During 1929, 863 expectant mothers attended upon 2,735 occasions.

The midwives continue to bring their cases in increasing numbers, and in 1929, 60 per cent. of the midwives' cases attended the clinics, as compared with 37 per cent. in 1928. Some midwives bring as many as 87 per cent. of their cases to the clinic. Assistance to the expectant mother is given by the Voluntary Committee who provide maternity outfits free or at cost price. These outfits are made by the ladies of the Committee who have had the advice and assistance of the Senior Health Visitor in this and in many other ways. Arrangements are made whereby the mothers can pay for the outfits by instalments.

Child Welfare Clinics.

This important branch of our work continues to show satisfactory progress, and the habit of weekly attendance at a child welfare centre is now well established in the town. This is shown by the figures for 1929 given below :—

CHILD WELFARE CENTRES, 1929.

	<i>Port- wood.</i>	<i>Church- gate.</i>	<i>Reddish.</i>	<i>Edgeley.</i>	<i>Wy- cliffe.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
New Cases.....	283	285	217	485	315	1585
Total Weighings..	3419	4861	3393	4939	2596	19208
Medical Consulta- tions.....	1847	2052	1453	1727	1175	8254
Total Attendances.	4693	5691	3921	5533	3091	22929

DR. MACKINTOSH reports :—

“The importance of making every effort to breast-feed their infants is impressed upon the mothers at the Centres. It has been found that with the intelligent co-operation of the mother, this is possible in 90 per cent. of cases. The number of instances in which a woman is unable to breast-feed her child is much less than is generally supposed and most cases of difficulty in breast-feeding arise from wrong methods and lack of attention to small details which may seem trivial and unimportant to the ignorant mother.”

No actual treatment is carried out at the clinics. Rachitic children continue to receive massage on the recommendation of the Medical Officer, and 1,368 attendances were made by the children at Churchgate House for this purpose.

It has again been found impossible owing to pressure of work to give health talks to groups of mothers at the centres. It is hoped if clerical assistance is available in 1930 that it will be possible to release the Health Visitors for this work.

The following table gives the feeding of infants at 3 months of age and their condition of health :—

	BREAST-FED.		PARTIALLY BREAST-FED.		ARTIFICIALLY-FED.	
	HEALTHY.	DELICATE.	HEALTHY.	DELICATE.	HEALTHY.	DELICATE.
1903 to 1907	4230 or 97.4% 4342	112 or 2.6%	366 or 77.6% 472	106 or 22.4% 472	582 or 42.8% 1360	778 or 57.2%
1908 to 1912	6616 or 97.3% 6871	255 or 2.7%	700 or 81.5% 859	159 or 18.5% 859	786 or 52.6% 1493	707 or 47.4%
1913 to 1917	2954 or 96.6% 3060	106 or 3.4%	449 or 82.1% 547	98 or 17.9% 547	620 or 57.9% 1070	450 or 42.1%
1918 to 1922	3675 or 98% 3747	72 or 2%	588 or 86.7% 678	90 or 13.3% 678	1378 or 80.5% 1711	333 or 19.5%
1923 to 1927	3552 or 98.3% 3614	62 or 1.7%	431 or 89.6% 481	50 or 10.4% 481	1828 or 80.6% 2267	439 or 19.4%
1928	792 or 97.5% 812	20 or 2.5%	54 or 91.5% 59	5 or 8.5% 59	332 or 81.1% 408	76 or 18.9%
1929	871 or 99.09% 879	8 or 0.91%	43 or 95.6% 45	2 or 4.4% 45	342 or 81.04% 422	80 or 18.96%

The figures shewing the different methods of feeding at 3 months of age are as follow :—

BREAST-FED—65.3% PARTIALLY BREAST-FED—3.4% ARTIFICIALLY FED—31.3%

The Members of the Stockport Voluntary Committee continue to give valuable assistance at the Centres and 22 ladies are regularly engaged in this work. Their co-operation in our work is much appreciated by all concerned.

Mothercraft Classes.

The Mothercraft Class held once weekly at Churchgate House by the Members of the Voluntary Committee was re-organised during the year. Lectures are now given regularly by Mrs. Kaye, who prior to her marriage was a Domestic Science Mistress. Instruction in dress-making, sewing, etc., is given by Mrs. Barrett, a qualified Dressmaker, and Lectures on Hygiene are given by Mrs. Surrell, who used to be on our Health Visiting Staff. It is proposed to extend this branch of the work to the other Centres in the town during 1930.

Milk (Mothers and Children) Order, 1919.

Under this Order 303 cases were dealt with in 1929. After careful inquiry a report upon the financial circumstances of each case is presented to a Sub-Committee of your Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, consisting of Councillor E. Barlow, Councillor Miss Johnson, and the Medical Officer of Health.

Number of cases dealt with.....	303
Quantities of Milk supplied :—	
Total.....	7210½ lbs.
Free.....	6411 lbs.
Half Cost.....	799½ lbs.
Total Cost.....	£550. 17s. 4d.

Mothers who attend the Centres regularly with their children are supplied with Dried Milk at cost price and 11,253 lbs. of dried milk were sold in this way. The total amount of milk thus distributed free, at half price and at cost price was 18,463½ lbs.

147 cases received free supplies of Cod Liver Oil Emulsion during the year.

Under the Milk (Mothers and Children) Order, 1919, applications for assistance have been confined to those relating to infants up to one year of age. Necessitous cases amongst children from 1 to 5 years of age have been referred to the Stockport Maternity and Child Welfare Voluntary Committee which has in all cases given the requisite assistance. The Voluntary Committee has a special Milk Fund for this purpose, and I am pleased to know that this valuable aid will be available for necessitous cases in the future, provided that the necessary subscriptions are forthcoming from the public. During 1929, 2,590 pints of milk were supplied to 33 necessitous cases.

Crippling Defects and Orthopaedics.

In my report for 1927 details were given of the organisation and administration of the scheme for the treatment, etc., of cases of crippling defects at the Orthopaedic Department of Stockport Infirmary under the Hon-Orthopaedic Surgeon, Mr. E. S. Brentnall. Great benefit accrues to crippled

children from this work and full use has been made during the year of the opportunity thus offered of seeking advice and of obtaining early treatment for crippling defects. Under the Maternity and Child Welfare portion of the Council's Orthopaedic scheme the following work was undertaken :—

Number of cases treated.....	35
Out-patients attendances.....	105
Attendances for Massage.....	835
Attendances for medical exercises.....	56
Number of In-patient Days.....	13
Number of X-Ray Examinations.....	6
Attendances for Ultra Violet Rays.....	399

Supervision of Midwives.

During the year 48 Midwives gave notice of their intention to practise within the Borough. These include 7 at the Union Hospital, one at the Union Workhouse, 11 at the Maternity Homes, and 6 Midwives who reside outside the Borough and gave notice of their intention to practise within the Borough. One Midwife ceased to practise during the year.

The qualifications of the Midwives who practise within the Borough are as follow :—

Possessing Certificates from the Obstetrical Society of London.....	2
Possessing Certificates from a recognised Hospital.....	1
Having passed the examination of the Central Midwives Board.....	43
Enrolled by virtue of having been in bona-fide practice as Midwives a year prior to the passing of the Act..	2
	—
	48

Four Midwives attended more than 100 cases each, either alone or with a medical man in attendance. 13 Midwives did not attend any cases except in co-operation with a Doctor.

The number of notifications of sending for medical assistance and the conditions for which help was required were as follows :—

Post-partum Haemorrhage.....	5	Condition of Eyes.....	37
Ante-partum Haemorrhage...	11	Abortion.....	8
Retained Placenta or Membranes.....	20	Uterine Inertia.....	10
Placenta Praevia.....	4	Premature Birth.....	7
Tedious Labour.....	30	Still-Birth.....	3
Obstructed Labour.....	42	Pemphigus (suspected).....	24
Ruptured Perineum.....	136	Albuminuria and Eclampsia ...	22
Contracted Pelvis.....	6	Rise of Temperature.....	21
Mal-presentation.....	22		—
Condition of Child.....	36	Total.....	477
Condition of Mother.....	33		—

For these 477 cases in which medical aid was summoned 313 accounts were rendered by the doctors concerned, amounting to £428. 15s. 6d. The sum of £78. 4s. 0d. was recovered from patients for whom medical services were provided in this way.

In accordance with the regulations of the Central Midwives Board the following notices have been received from the Midwives :—

Artificial Feeding.....	24
Still-births.....	29
Deaths occurring in practice.....	10
Liability to be a source of infection.....	18
Having laid out a dead body.....	15
	—
Total.....	96
	—

Two Midwives who had attended infectious cases received compensation for loss of practice caused by unavoidable delay in carrying out disinfection.

The work of inspection of Midwives was undertaken by Dr. Mackintosh. All Midwives in active practice in the town were inspected thrice during the year. Non-practising Midwives are inspected once annually. 79 visits of inspection were paid. These visits depend for their effectiveness on their surprise character. On 30 occasions the Midwives were not at home when the house was visited. By arrangement the Cheshire County Council and the Manchester Corporation inspect the six Midwives residing outside the town, who occasionally practise in this County Borough.

Dr. Mackintosh also interviewed Midwives at the Town Hall on 58 occasions. Midwives have also been interviewed on numerous occasions by the Senior Health Visitor, or by one of the District Health Visitors.

The Stockport Midwives' Association has continued its activities in 1929.

The course of lectures arranged for the Midwives by your Maternity and Child Welfare Committee during the Winter of 1928–29 was much appreciated, and it is hoped that a further series of lectures will be given early in 1930.

The Officers of the Stockport Midwives' Association in 1929 were :—

President : Dr. N. Gebbie (Medical Officer of Health).

Vice-President : Mrs. Barr.

Hon. Secretary : Mrs. Titterton.

Hon. Treasurer : Mrs. Pickford.

Representative Member : Mrs. G. Smith.

Nursing Homes Registration Act, 1927.

This Act, which provides for the registration of Nursing Homes (including Maternity Homes), came into operation on July 1st, 1928. Under this Act no applications for registration were received apart from the six applications for registration of premises which had previously been registered under the Midwives and Maternity Homes Act, 1926, as Maternity Homes.

MILE END HALL MATERNITY HOSPITAL.

There is accommodation at your Council's Maternity Hospital at Mile End Hall for 16 mothers and 16 babies.

The Hospital is administered by the Maternity Home Sub-Committee of your Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, and your Medical Officer of Health is Medical Superintendent of the Hospital.

Applicants for admission are interviewed by the Matron and full particulars of the financial, etc., circumstances are submitted in each case to the Maternity Home Sub-Committee, which fixes the charge to be made. Only case numbers are used so that the names, etc., of the applicants are unknown to the Committee members.

The fees charged range from 30/- per week to £6. 6s. 0d. per week for cases resident within the Borough, and from 5 guineas to 6 guineas per week for outside Borough patients.

The Matron, Miss B. L. Scott, and the Nursing and Domestic staffs of the Hospital have carried out their duties in commendable fashion, and the gardeners are to be congratulated on maintaining a constant supply of fresh vegetables from the Hospital garden for the use of the patients in the various Corporation Hospitals.

Nurses are trained by the Matron and her permanent staff at the Hospital for the examination in Midwifery of the Central Midwives Board, the district work being undertaken by Mrs. Barr at No. 1, Caistor Street, Stockport, and during November by Mrs. Pickford, Old Road, Stockport.

I have to thank my medical colleagues in the town for their continued interest in the Hospital and for sending cases to the Hospital for treatment.

During the year the following cases were dealt with :—

Number of mothers remaining in Hospital on 1st January, 1929...	10
" " admitted during year.....	231
" " discharged during year.....	228
" " died during year.....	—
" " remaining in Hospital on 31st December, 1929..	13

Number of babies remaining in Hospital on 1st January, 1929.....	12
" " born during year (live births 216, still-births 9)..	225
" " discharged during year.....	216
" " died	1
" " " (still-births).....	9
" " remaining in Hospital on 31st December, 1929..	11

Number of Miscarriages.....	1
" Cases of Puerperal Fever.....	—
" " Puerperal Pyrexia.....	10
" twins born in Hospital	1 set

The Assistant Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare assists your Medical Officer of Health in the administration of the Maternity Hospital, and conducts, at the Hospital, an Ante-natal Clinic once weekly for patients desirous of seeking admission to the Hospital.

The premises used for ante-natal clinic purposes have been extensively altered during the year with most satisfactory results.

All women who have had a normal confinement and who do not require the services of their own Doctor are examined by Dr. Mackintosh prior to their discharge from the Hospital, and if they so desire they can attend for a further examination at the Clinic four weeks later. Should any abnormality be discovered at either of these examinations they are advised to consult their own doctor without delay. There has thus been commenced in Stockport a post-natal Clinic, which it is hoped will in time have far reaching beneficial results. We hope that we shall be able to lessen to a considerable extent much of the sickness and invalidism which are the lot of so many women after confinement, and by securing early treatment for defects we hope to prevent the occurrence of serious complications.

Mile End Maternity Hospital.

Annual Statistics—Year 1929.

- (1) Number of cases in the Home on 1st January, 1929 : 10 mothers, 12 babies.
- (2) Number of cases admitted during 1929 : 231 (225 Births, including one set of twins).
- (3) Average duration of stay : 2 weeks.
- (4) Number of cases delivered by—
 - (a) Midwives : 165.
 - (b) Doctors : 60.
- (5) Number of cases in which medical assistance was sought by the Midwife with reasons for requiring assistance : 124.

A.—Albuminuria.....	9	} Ante-natal : 12.
Miscarriage and threatened abortion..	2	
Ante-natal observation.....	1	
B.—Ante-partum Haemorrhage.....	5	} During labour : 26.
Delayed labour.....	6	
Obstructed labour.....	5	
Contracted pelvis.....	2	
Head not fixing.....	2	
Uterine inertia.....	2	
Malpresentation.....	3	
Foetal distress.....	1	
C.—Adherent Placenta and Chorion.....	6	} After labour : 67.
Ruptured perineum (all requiring suture).....	52	
Puerperal Pyrexia.....	4	
Post-partum Haemorrhage.....	1	
Miscellaneous.....	4	
D.—Suspected Pemphigus.....	3	} For Infant : 19.
Inflammation of Eyes.....	7	
Miscellaneous.....	9	

- (6) Number of cases notified as—
 (a) Puerperal Fever : Nil.
 (b) Puerperal Pyrexia : 10.
- (7) Number of cases notified as Pemphigus Neonatorum : 5.
- (8) Number of cases notified as Ophthalmia Neonatorum with result of treatment in each case : 2—Cured.
- (9) Number of cases of “ Inflammation of the eyes,” however slight : 7.
- (10) Number of Infants not entirely breast-fed while in the Institution with reasons why they were not breast-fed :—
- | | | |
|---|---|-------|
| Debility of Mother..... | 6 | } 12. |
| Failure of breast milk..... | 4 | |
| Unsuitability of milk..... | 1 | |
| Unmarried mother returning to work..... | 1 | |
- (11) Number of Maternal Deaths with Causes : Nil.
- (12) Number of foetal deaths (a) still-born, and (b) within 10 days of birth and their causes :—
 (a) Still-births : 9.
 (b) Inanition, 1.

Speeial Reports have been prepared during the year by your Medical Officer of Health upon cases of Puerperal Pyrexia and Pemphigus Neonatorum occurring in the Maternity Hospital. These Reports, which included the clinical findings ascertained by Dr. Mackintosh, were submitted to the Committee concerned and copies were transmitted to the Minister of Health. Prompt and efficient measures were adopted in each case to prevent the spread of infection and the results were highly satisfactory.

WEEKLY MEANS OF OBSERVATIONS AT THE BOROUGH METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATORY, STOCKPORT.

Latitude 53° 24' 12" N.

Longitude 2° 9' 14" W.

Cistern of Barometer 261-56 feet and top of Raingauge 285 feet
above Mean Sea-level.

1929.	Thermometers.		Average daily Rain- fall.	1929.	Thermometers.		Average daily Rain- fall.
	Underground.				Underground.		
	1 Foot.	4 Feet.			1 Foot.	4 Feet.	
1st week	36.0	42.0	.005	27th week	57.0	54.0	.33
2nd ,,	36.0	41.0	.07	28th ,,	58.3	54.0	.03
3rd ,,	35.0	40.2	.04	29th ,,	62.0	54.3	.02
4th ,,	34.5	39.5	.03	30th ,,	61.5	56.0	.04
5th ,,	37.2	39.0	.11	31st ,,	59.0	56.0	.29
6th ,,	38.5	40.5	.12	32nd ,,	57.5	57.5	.11
7th ,,	34.1	40.0	—	33rd ,,	56.5	56.5	.04
8th ,,	33.5	37.4	—	34th ,,	57.4	55.0	.17
9th ,,	33.0	38.0	—	35th ,,	58.2	56.0	.02
10th ,,	34.5	38.0	—	36th ,,	59.0	56.0	—
11th ,,	36.1	38.0	—	37th ,,	56.5	56.0	.004
12th ,,	39.5	38.3	.11	38th ,,	55.4	55.5	.05
13th ,,	43.2	40.6	.02	39th ,,	55.0	55.0	.07
14th ,,	43.0	42.5	.04	40th ,,	52.5	54.0	.29
15th ,,	44.0	42.0	.02	41st ,,	50.0	53.0	.06
16th ,,	46.2	42.5	—	42nd ,,	50.0	52.0	.08
17th ,,	44.6	43.5	.07	43rd ,,	47.4	52.0	.23
18th ,,	46.0	44.0	.09	44th ,,	43.4	48.6	.09
19th ,,	48.1	45.3	.20	45th ,,	43.6	48.0	.29
20th ,,	50.5	46.2	.04	46th ,,	40.6	49.0	.31
21st ,,	56.2	48.5	.05	47th ,,	44.0	46.0	.18
22nd ,,	57.0	50.3	.01	48th ,,	44.5	46.0	.21
23rd ,,	56.0	52.0	.06	49th ,,	43.5	46.0	.27
24th ,,	57.0	52.0	.11	50th ,,	41.5	46.0	.15
25th ,,	57.5	52.5	.03	51st ,,	40.1	45.5	.02
26th ,,	57.0	54.0	.004	52nd ,,	40.7	43.5	.28

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